

CLASS SYLLABUS

AP Language & Composition

HELENA HIGH SCHOOL: 2024-2025

About the Teacher



Hi! My name is Jenna Clark. This is my 14th year teaching at HHS and my 8th year teaching AP Language. I love

the philosophical exploration and deep discussions we get to do in this course.

My favorite literary genres are sci-fi, fantasy, and mystery. I'm mom to two human children, plus two dogs, two cats, and nine chickens. I like gardening, baking, watching movies, and listening to history or true crime podcasts.

CLASSROOM & BENGAL - *Expectations* -

Students are expected to follow classroom rules and procedures as well as school-wide policies for behavior.

- *Be Respectful* -

- Honor the ideas of others. We all benefit from hearing the perspectives and experiences of those around us.
- **LIMITED PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE USAGE IN CLASS.**
- Treat the classroom and its contents with care.
- Classroom materials, including books, are not permitted to leave the classroom without express permission from an instructor.

- *Be Responsible* -

- Arrive on time and be prepared. You will need:
 - 1 ½" - 2" binder
 - Black or Blue pens
 - Highlighters (3 or more colors)
 - 1-2 bright colored pens
 - loose leaf or perforated notebook paper.
- Ask for assistance if you do not understand what is expected of you in class or on an assignment.
- Please limit your time out of the classroom during class time.
- Absences: It is YOUR responsibility to see a teacher about makeup work.

- *Be Involved* -

- Contribute to class discussions.
- All students work to create a respectful, safe, and comfortable learning environment for all students.
- Ms. Clark is always ready to support each student's educational and social-emotional needs; please message me if you need help or have concerns.

- *Be a Graduate* -

- AP Language meets one of the 4 English credits (23 HPS Graduation Credits total).
- You are your community: your behavior reflects not only on yourself, but also on this class and the school as a whole.
- (See back for Grading and other policies).



- *Course* - DESCRIPTION

This class will prepare students for the AP Language and Composition exam in May, which offers college credit for passing students.

We will study **argumentation, rhetoric, and analysis**. Most of our texts will be non-fiction, though we will also read ***The Things They Carried*** by Tim O'Brien and one additional junior-level novel (TBD). We will write extensively, including processed essays, journal-style "quickwrites," and timed writes.

AP courses are intended to be taught as college-level courses. This course will be challenging, requiring intellectual engagement, and rigorous preparation. I expect to be able to treat you as a student serious about your education.

Reading Recommendations:

--For this course, students should read **high quality non-fiction** in both short form (articles in *The Atlantic* or *The New Yorker*, for example) and long form (see Summer Reading list).

--Reading local and national newspapers is also a great idea!

--**For fun**, I recommend anything Sci-Fi, especially Kurt Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse Five* and Douglas Adams's *Hitchhiker's Guide* series.

CONTACT INFORMATION

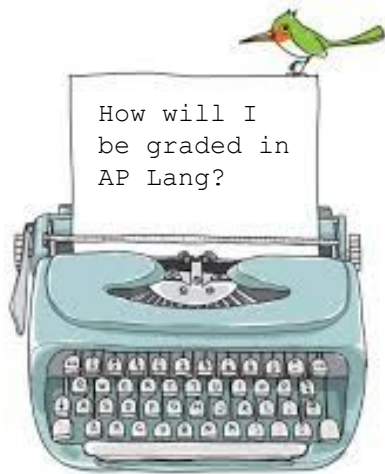
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AP Language & Composition 2024-2025



AP Lang is graded in the following three categories:

Practice:

New skills, standards, and content that students are learning for the first time. The intention is to practice to gain proficiency.

- Examples of practice work are graphic organizers, grammar practice, introductory assignments, etc.
- Accounts for **10%** of each quarter grade.

Formative:

Evaluating the students' knowledge as they learn. This is a method of on-going assessment and it involves questions and exercises to help monitor learner progress during the course.

- Examples of formative work are essay rough drafts, quick write assignments, and daily class discussions.
- Accounts for **30%** of each quarter grade.

Summative:

Assessments administered at the end of an instructional unit. These assessments are intended to evaluate student learning.

- Examples of summative assessments are final drafts of essays, cumulative projects or presentations, and final grammar and vocabulary assessments.
- Accounts for **60%** of each quarter grade.

Grading Scale

A Range 90%-100%

B Range 80%-89%

C Range 70%-79%

D Range 60%-69%

F 0-59%

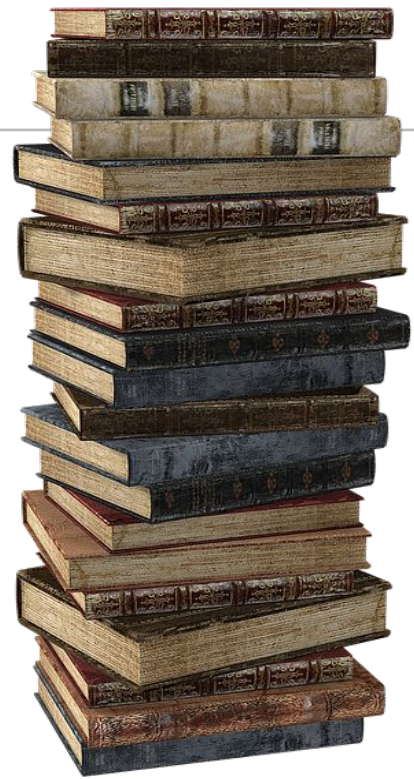
S1= (Q1 & Q2 80%)+ (Exam 20%)

Late Work

- Only on-time submissions of formative and summative work are guaranteed to receive feedback or a grade.
- No late work will be graded for practice assignments.
- If you have extenuating circumstances, please contact your teacher to discuss make-up work.
- Unexcused absences and scheduled events (like working at your job) do not constitute extenuating circumstances

Academic Honesty

- This class is about developing your own original voice and writing. **Plagiarism, including use of AI, will earn you a zero** and will result in a referral to building administration.



Other Class Policies:

- **Bathroom:** You must notify the teacher before leaving class, take the pass with you, and limit time outside the class to a minimum. You may not take your phone to the bathroom.
- **Food/Drink:** Please do not bring food to class. Drinks with lids are permitted. You are responsible for thoroughly cleaning any and all spills or messes you make.
- **Teams Chat:** You are always free to send Ms. Clark a chat with your questions, concerns, etc. but please note that messages may not be answered between 7:00PM-7:50AM or on weekends and holidays. This also applies to emails.
- **Agenda Emails:** A weekly agenda will be posted to my teacher page and copied to Teams on Mondays. A **monthly class newsletter** will also be emailed to families in the first week of the month.
- **Powerschool:** Grades will be updated weekly. Please be aware that some items may take longer to grade than others. If you have questions, please contact Ms. Clark anytime.