Mission
To educate students to be self-directed learners, collaborative workers, complex thinkers, quality producers, and community contributors.

Course Description
Per the College Board description of the English Language and Composition course (2006), AP® Language and Composition is a college-level course designed to prepare students to “become skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes, aware of the interactions among a writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects. An integral part of [this] course [is] the development of research skills that enable [you] to evaluate, use, and cite source material.”

Competencies (according to the College Board English Language and Composition course description): Successful students will:
• Think and write critically in formal and informal contexts using narrative, expository, argumentative, and analytical styles about a variety of subjects (e.g., public policy, personal experiences, popular culture, etc.).
• Write essays that use different brainstorming and organizational techniques and that proceed through several drafts with revision and student/teacher feedback.
• Use effective diction, syntax, support and tone according to audience and purpose.
• Read a wide variety of prose and poetry genres (including several nonfiction selections) that increase the readers’ awareness of the effect of different rhetorical devices.
• Analyze how graphics and visual images serve rhetorical purposes.
• Use proper MLA documentation; every AP® Language assignment requires students to refer to and utilize proper MLA documentation, using the “A+ Guide” in their student handbooks.
• Perform print and Internet research effectively.
• Evaluate primary and secondary sources.

Course Learning Standards
Reading 35%
Writing 60%
Speaking and Listening 5%

Grading:
Your course grade will reflect what you have learned, not what you have completed.

Overall Semester grade:
90% Course Grade
10% Final Exam

The final semester grade will be rounded to the nearest percentage point.

Course Grade
Each unit/standard is assigned a particular percentage.
Within each unit, summative and formative sections are weighted as follows:

Formative Assessments 0%
Summative Assessments 100%
Non-Negotiable Course Assignments:
Two Timed Writings
Close Reading Portfolio
Two Essays

Grading Disbursement:
A= 100-90 B=89-80 C= 79-70 D=69-60 F= 59.4 and below

Incomplete or work not turned in will receive a grade of 0 in the grade book.

Reassessment Policy

Summative Assignments: All summative assignments must be completed in order to pass. Every summative assignment must be completed by the conclusion of the unit.

Formative Assignments: All formative assignments are opportunities for students to practice, develop skills, and receive feedback. These formative marks do not directly impact student grades, but are expected to be completed. Students will utilize feedback in order to self-assess their progress towards a standard.

Reassessment Policy
Reassessment only on summative work, excluding timed writings, final exams and district assessments

1. Students are only allowed reassessment on essays on which they receive a 79% or below.
2. The maximum grade the student can get on the reassessment is an 80%.
3. The higher of the two scores will be entered in Infinite Campus.

Criteria for reassessment on selected writing assignments:
1. Essay is turned in on time.
2. All formative work is completed on time.
3. Student must decide within 2 days of assignment pass-back that he or she will choose a new essay topic and draft a new essay.
4. The student must make an appointment to meet with the teacher outside of class.
5. A new due date will be agreed upon by teacher and student between one and two weeks from pass-back date.
6. Other criteria may be required, as determined by the teacher.

Communication
- Teachers make every effort to respond to emails and phone calls within 48 hours during the work week.
- The best way to communicate with teachers is through email; however, if you haven’t received a response in 48 hours, please resend the email or call their voicemail. Your email may have gone into the spam folder.

Help
- Make an appointment with your teacher.
- Attend S.O.S (supervised open study) in the Literacy Center M, W & Th from 3:15 to 4:15.
- Drop in for peer tutor during lunch periods or before school through the Literacy Center.

Parents or Guardians
We need your help!
Parents should actively check Infinite Campus for their student's grade.
  - The grades on Infinite Campus will be accurate only at Mid-Quarter and Quarter. Prior to those dates, the grade reflected is fluid.
  - Infinite Campus is a communication tool until final grade is posted.
- Please ask your student about his or her school work.
- Check with your individual teacher for classroom procedures, schedules, and daily class news.