

AP English Literature

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The AP English Literature and Composition course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone.

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

The course includes intensive study of representative works from various genres and periods, concentrating on works of recognized literary merit. Reading in the AP course is both wide and deep. This reading necessarily builds upon the reading done in previous English courses.

In the AP course, students read works from several genres and periods—from the sixteenth to the twenty-first century—but, more importantly, they get to know a few works well. They read deliberately and thoroughly, taking time to understand a work's complexity, to absorb its richness of meaning, and to analyze how that meaning is embodied in literary form.

In short, students in an AP English Literature and Composition course read actively. The works taught in the course require careful, deliberative reading. And the approach to analyzing and interpreting the material involves students in learning how to make careful observations of textual detail, establish connections among their observations, and draw from those connections a series of inferences leading to an interpretive conclusion about a piece of writing's meaning and value.

Writing is an integral part of the AP English Literature and Composition course and exam. Writing assignments focus on the critical analysis of literature and include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays. The goal of the writing assignments is to increase students' ability to explain clearly, cogently, even elegantly, what they understand about literary works and why they interpret them as they do.

Mr. Stuart Nabors

"If you had told me when I was your age that I was going to be a teacher, I would have laughed, but here I am twenty years later. I don't want to be doing anything else."

While the study of leadership is demonstrated prominently throughout history, it is also exhibited through literature. With that comes a need for a strong AP Literature teacher. Look no further because Stuart Nabors has got it covered. A thoughtful, determined worker, yet fun and intriguing teacher, Mr. Nabors instills not only a thirst for knowledge, but a passion for learning in his classroom.

Mr. Nabors is from Nokesville, Virginia. After graduating from William and Mary as an English Major, he now is proud to be the Leadership English 12 AP Literature teacher. He enjoys teaching seniors because he believes it is a unique experience launching them into adulthood. What he thinks makes his Leadership class special is that there is "the opportunity to apply some of the leadership lessons you have learned." What he likes most about the Leadership program is the fact that all the students know each other really well and there is such great unity and camaraderie.

Mr. Nabors considers his ability to recognize talents in people that might not appear obvious as what sets him apart as a leader. Something interesting about Mr. Nabors is that he has a Labrador named after one of his favorite authors—Harper Lee.