**AP Literature**

**Mr. Mattice**

**Course Syllabus 2024-2025**

**Course Description**

Welcome to AP (Advanced Placement) English Literature and Composition. Although the apparent goal of this class is to receive a passing grade on the AP Lit exam, this course’s true goal is to create students who are not only ready to attend college but to succeed in college. The college board’s definition of AP lit is as follows:

“An 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 in which writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for the readers. As they read, students consider a work’s structure, style and themes, as well as such smaller-scale elements as the figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone.”

In this letter/syllabus I am including some information that you will need to be successful in my classroom. If you have any questions in class, remember that you can always ask me. Whenever possible I am available before and after school if you feel that you need extra help. Just make sure to let me know ahead of time so that I can ensure you have a way home. (Note: if parents have any questions about their student’s class, they can call/text me at the school or e-mail me.)

**Texts/Unit**

***1st Nine Weeks:***

*The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald*

*The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison*

***2nd Nine Weeks:***

*The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde*

***3rd Nine Weeks:***

*Frankenstein* written by Mary Shelley

*As I Lay Dying* by: William Faulkner

*Kite Runner* Khaled Hosseini

***4th Nine Weeks:***

Student’s Choice in preparation for the exam

**Major Course Projects and Instructional Activities**

Major activities are based primarily on the novel choice (see above) that we are currently reading. Most of this work will completed in class; however, there will be time spent in the theater during the drama unit for *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

**Course work/Classwork**

Students will receive a variety of assignments designed to enhance their learning. If a student is absent, the student is responsible for the missed assignment.

Students are expected to submit work on time. Doing so exhibits pride in producing quality work and fulfilling student responsibility. This work habit is a behavior that supports academic achievement and demonstrates characteristics from our Richmond County School System Profile of a Graduate. Late work can negatively impact learning and your ability to demonstrate mastery of the standards.

When the assignment calls for students to produce original work, students will not use Artificial Intelligence (AI) to generate the assignment for them. Assignments are given to help students learn and demonstrate what they know. While there may be appropriate times for students to use AI during the learning process, using AI to generate original work in place of the student completing the work, is considered

Academic Dishonesty and can be punished according to the rules outlined in the Code of Conduct.

*See RCBOE IHA-R Grading Practices*

**Late Work (Grading Policy- See RCBOE IHA-R Grading Practices)**

Students will have their scores reduced by 5% per school day for a 25% maximum reduction (five school days).

***Late work submitted after the fifth school day will only be accepted at the teacher’s discretion. (This will only occur for extreme circumstances.)***

**Make-Up Work (Grading Policy)**

Students are expected to make-up assignments and assessments that were missed due to absence from

school. Students are responsible for asking teachers for the make-up work upon returning to class.

Make-up work should be completed by the student upon return to class per the same guidelines as the late policy.

(If the student needs to stay after school in class (such as making up a major test) and needs to set up a ride after school,

**(Prolonged absences due to extenuating circumstances that have been communicated to the school such as hospital stays, etc. will, of course, be handled on an individual case.)**

**Evaluation (Grading Policy)**

* Minor Grades (Quizzes, Class work, Graded Writing Assignments, Group Work, etc.)

(60% of overall Semester Grade minus Final Exam)

* Major Grades (Unit & Chapter Test, Projects, Tasks)

(40% of overall Semester Grade minus Final Exam)

(The final exam for each semester is counted as 10% of the overall grade per semester.)

**Relearn and Reassess Plan**

For any major assessments, students will have the opportunity to submit a relearning plan for parent and teacher approval. Upon satisfactory completion of the plan, as determined by the teacher, students will be given a minimum of **ONE** opportunity to be reassessed. Only students scoring below 70 on a major assessment can complete a relearning plan unless exempted with parent approval.

Reassessments may be different from the original.

The reassessment score will replace the original score (the scores will not be averaged).

Reassessments should be completed **within 7 school days** of receiving the original grade. Teachers should have discretion to extend the timeline to address extenuating circumstances.

*See teacher class page for Relearn/Reassess*

**Classroom Procedures & Expectations**

**Behavior Policy**: Above all other rules every student, teacher, parent, or any visitor to the school must follow the county wide discipline policies.

The rules that my students must always follow in the classroom are as follows:

1. Work comes first!

2. Do not get out of your seat.

3. Raise your hand when you need something.

4. Do not speak at inappropriate times. There is a time for noise and a time for quiet.

5. There is no food or drink, including gum, in the classroom.

6. Cell phones are prohibited in class and in the building.

7. Work is turned in as you leave the classroom, not before.

8. Follow all established rules in the RCBOE Code of Conduct Handbook.

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| **Wholehearted** | * **Most (not all) work time will be collaborative. Working with our partners to both learn from and teach each other in preparation for the next step of our careers.** |
| **Accountable** | * **Although I have worked with my partners to gain a better understanding of the material, I am turning in the work in my own language.** |
| **Respectful** | * **As I work with my partners to better understand the materials, I am using language that is productive and helpful to myself and my peers.** |

**Course Materials**

\* 3” 3-ring Binder

\* 1 Package of Dividers (5 Total)

\* Pencils (mechanical pencils preferred)

\* Highlighters

\* Loose Leaf Paper

\* Coloring Utensils (crayons, coloring pencil, or markers)

**My contact information:**

Email: mattibe@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us

To sign up for class reminders:  
Text @aplit114 to 81010

**Mature Content Consent:** Literature courses are used as a place of expression and varying views. In some cases, there can be mature themes, language, or situations within texts read and your student may be exposed to some of these things. I commit, as the teacher of this course, to do my best to only use material that is necessary to the education of your student. All material will be either, G, PG, PG-13, or even R in nature. IF during the course your student has concerns about content, other arrangements will be made.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Contract:** I understand that all work should be completed on time. I understand that my teacher may deduct five points per day and communicate this in my Infinite Campus gradebook. I also understand that work turned in after the learning has occurred may not be graded (no more than 5 school days from the due date). I understand that using Artificial Intelligence to complete assignments where I am asked to produce original work will be considered Academic Dishonesty.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Contract:** I understand that my child is expected to complete assignments on time. I will

remain in communication with my child’s teacher and monitor missing and late work as noted in Infinite Campus Parent Portal. If my child continues to submit work late, I understand that a parent-teacher conference will be needed to co-develop a plan of action. I understand that my child should not use Artificial Intelligence to complete assignments where students are asked to produce original work.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_