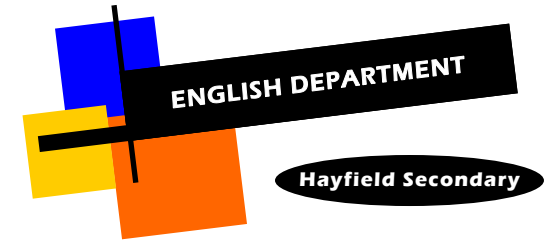


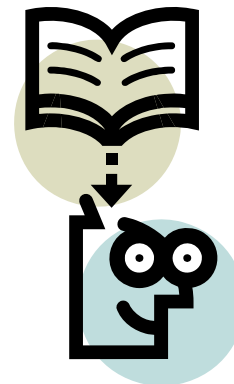
PROGRAM GOALS

1. Students learn and develop study skills needed for college.
2. Students exercise critical thinking skills in order to advance their understanding.
3. Students read challenging texts.
4. Students write for many purposes, practicing standard grammar, mechanics, and usage.
5. Students prepare for standardized exams (including the English End of Course SOL exams, the PSAT, the SAT, and the AP exams).
6. Students research various topics and synthesize their findings into an original paper.
7. Students become life-long learners, readers, and writers.



HONORS AND AP COURSE OFFERINGS

Honors 9 and 10
AP Language (English 11)
AP Literature (English 12)



Questions?

Contact: Theresa Poquis, English Dept. Chair
Theresa.Poquis@fcps.edu
703-924-2127

HONORS 9 AND 10 ENGLISH 9

Students in Honors English 9 will begin the year with a summer reading project. Typically, this assignment serves as an introduction to the type of work students will do throughout the year.

Students will read the following works::

Romeo and Juliet, *Night*, *The Odyssey*, another novel (teacher's choice), various short stories, poems and essays.

Students will study literary devices, vocabulary, grammar, mechanics and usage, and will begin learning test-taking strategies.



Students in Honors and AP classes should expect homework EVERY night.

ENGLISH 10

Students in Honors English 10 will also have a summer reading project. Typically, this assignment serves as part of the first quarter study.

Students will read the following works:: *Julius Caesar*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Of Mice and Men*, another novel (teacher's choice), various

short stories, poems and essays.

Students will continue their study of literary devices, vocabulary, grammar, mechanics and usage, and will practice test-taking strategies.

Students in BOTH classes will write at least eight essays, four timed writings, and a research paper.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE

This is a college-level course which focuses on developing critical thinking, writing, and analyzing skills. Students may earn college credit for successful completion of the course and with a qualifying score on the AP exam.

Students choose a non-fiction text (from a list) to read and analyze over the summer. This project will serve as an introduction to the types of assignments given throughout the year.

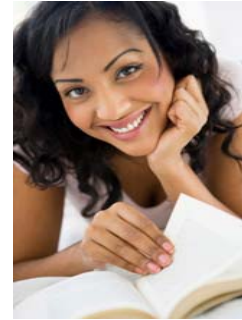
The focus of literature study will be on HOW authors write, what techniques they use, in order to create meaning. Students will read primarily non-fiction works throughout the year. The main text is a college-level anthology of American works. In addition, students will read *The Great Gatsby*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Black Boy*, *In Cold Blood*, and *All the King's Men*.

Students will continue to study vocabulary; will refine grammar, mechanics, and usage skills; and will focus on test-taking strategies.

Students will write in class daily, with assignments varying from journal entries to single practice sentences. They will also write one paper per quarter outside of class, timed writings at least 4 times per quarter, and a 4-6 page research paper.

AP ENGLISH LIT.

Please see additional handout for more specific information.



Students taking Honors and AP English classes should enjoy reading.

THE AP EXAMS

Both AP English exams include a section of between 50-60 multiple choice questions based on the reading of four or five passages of between 200-250 words. The passages on the AP Lang. exam will all be non-fiction, while the AP Lit. exam will include both poetry and prose. This portion of the exam will count as 45% of the exam grade and students will have 60 minutes to complete it.

Both exams also include three essays.

The AP Lang. exam includes a synthesis essay, an argument analysis essay, and an open argument essay. All documents will be non-fiction. This portion of the exam will count as 55% of the exam grade and students will have 2 hours and 15 minutes to complete it.

The AP Lit. exam includes a poetry analysis essay, a prose fiction analysis essay, and an open analysis essay. This portion of the exam will count as 55% of the exam grade and students will have 2 hours to complete it.

AP scores are mailed to students in July or August. Passing scores are considered to be a 3, 4 or 5.



The AP exams are given the first two weeks in May.