**Ms. Jenifer Gearhart**

**Room 6**

AP 11: English Language and Composition

*“We are all apprentices in a craft where no one ever becomes a master.”  
—Ernest Hemingway*

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| **Contact Info**  **e-mail**: [jgearhart@k12.wv.us](mailto:jgearhart@k12.wv.us)  **Twitter:** @msgearhart11 (school updates only. I will not follow back)  **Class website**: <http://gearhartclass.weebly.com>  **Remind**: Text @GearAP17 to 81010 |

**Introduction and Goals:**

Welcome to AP English Language. As an Advanced Placement course, this class is considered to be college level. This means that the expectations are very high and the workload of this class is rigorous. This course is designed to transition you from high school to college level writing. You will develop your ability to analyze the use of rhetoric in a variety of pieces from traditional nonfiction prose to visual argumentation. Through close reading of selected texts, you will deepen your understanding of rhetorical skills in persuasion and exposition

The primary goal of the Advanced Placement English class is to develop your abilities as a reader and writer. Students who take this course seriously will learn to write more effectively and confidently in the forms of expository, analytical and argumentative writing that is the basis of academic and professional communication. Through the careful reading of primary and secondary sources, you will learn to synthesize material from these texts in your own compositions and to cite sources using methods such as the Modern Language Association (MLA) and the American Psychological Association (APA).

**Course Content:**

Unlike most of your English career thus far, AP Language is modeled after an introductory college writing course. As such, it focuses heavily on nonfiction reading and analytical writing. We will spend some time in the world of fiction, but most of our time will focus on nonfiction pieces and **very** heavily on writing.

In class, we will read at least three book length texts. This may include *Persepolis, The Scarlet Letter, The Great Gatsby, Fahrenheit 451,* and *Into the Wild*. We will read a variety of shorter nonfiction pieces from our textbooks throughout the longer units. The selection and order of these texts is subject to change.

**Materials:**

* Textbook/novel currently being used in class
* Writing Utensil (pencil, blue or black pen)
* Bound Composition notebook
* 3 Ring Binder and dividers
* Loose-leaf paper
* Highlighter (yellow and 2 other colors)

**Late Assignments**

1. You will be given one homework pass per nine weeks. This will allow you to turn in a homework assignment late (this will not exempt you from the assignment).
2. Daily assignments/homework turned in late **will not be accepted** unless the student wasabsent
3. Major work (papers, projects) will lose 10% of grade for each day it is late. **Late work will not be accepted any later than 5 school days after the original due date.**

**Make up Policy**

1. You are **responsible** for obtaining your make up work after your absence. Make up work and notes will be located in the student work area. See Ms. Gearhart with any questions on assignments.
2. **ALL MAKE UP WORK MUST BE COMPLETED WITHIN 2 DAYS OF A STUDENT’S ABSENCE UNLESS OTHERWISE ARRANGED WITH THE TEACHER.**

**Grading Policy:**

1. All grades in AP English 11 are based on the Hedgesville High School grading scale
2. Extra Credit:
   1. There will be a few extra credit assignments and opportunities available to all students
   2. In individual circumstances, extra credit assignments may be arranged
3. I am available for individual and group tutoring before and after school. Please talk to me at least one day in advance to arrange a time.

**AP Grading Expectations**

Most major writing assignments will be assigned a score based on the AP 1-9 scale used on the May exam. All students may rewrite essays to improve score, but **essays that earn less than a 6 require a rewrite.**

The 1-9 score corresponds with the following percentage/letter grade.

**9: 100**

**8: 95**

**7: 90**

**6: 85**

**5: 80**

**4: 75**

**3: 70**

**2: 65**

**1: 60**

Assignments that are not evaluated using the 1-9 scale will be graded according to a rubric that you will be given.

**Types of Writing assignments to expect in AP Language:**

* Multi Draft Research Paper
* Timed In Class Essays
* Imitation writing assignments
* Writing Journal
* Some creative pieces

***General Expectations and Consequences in Our Classroom***

***Expectations***

1. **H-** Have all materials with you and enter class on time
2. **H-** Have **respect** for your **school**, for your **peers**, for your **teachers**, and for **all staff** and all property that is not yours
3. **S-** Show **respect** for **yourself.** Do your **BEST** not because I ask you to, but because **I know YOU CAN.**

***Expectations for Respectful Classroom Behavior***

In this classroom, you are expected to respect other students, teachers and their property. We will spend a fair amount of time in this class in group work and discussions. This means that you are expected to be respectful of the opinions and comments of others, even if you do not agree with them.

***Consequences for most offences***

1. **Lunch Detention**
2. **Referral for school detention**
3. **Further action taken by principal**

**Cheating/Plagiarism Policy:**

Cheating is **unacceptable** in this class. Plagiarism falls into this policy as well. Plagiarism happens when you turn in any work that is not your own (copied from another student, book, or online source without giving the source of the information).

If you are caught cheating or plagiarizing on **any** assignment, the following will occur:

* **Automatic 0** on the assignment.
* Call home
* You will be referred for a school detention.

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| **School policy dictates that if you are caught cheating/plagiarizing twice in the same grading period in the same class, YOU WLL RECEIVE A FAILING GRADE FOR THE QUARTER. This is a serious offense and will not be tolerated.** |

***Tardy Policy:***

As per Hedgesville High School rules, you will be considered tardy if you are not in the classroom and in your assigned seat by the time the bell rings.

1. Verbal warning for your first tardy
2. Referral for detention for each subsequent tardy

**Electronic/Internet Policy:**

**See HHS acceptable use policy in the student handbook**