

May 16, 2011

Dear New AP Student,

Advanced placement Language and Composition class is exactly what it sounds like. It is a course taken in high school with a college level curriculum and expectations. At the end of the year you should leave the class not only with a higher standard of thinking but also feel more prepared and aware of what to expect during your future college experience. AP language, as well as any other advanced placement class is more in depth than regular classes. That means the class may involve more research, critical questions, and independent thinking.

The beginning of the year could be either stressful or easier going depending on how you treat the class. It is better to be caught up then have to play catch up. However, that can all be avoided if you make the right decisions and do not procrastinate. Even those who leave the class not passing the AP exam should feel some sort of accomplishment and better understanding of the real world. From the first nine weeks until the last day of school your job is never done.

Everyone takes something different away from the class. Through each assignment, reading, Socratic circle, essay, and the infamous Buchmaster experiences something will stick with you or influence you in some kind of way. The most valuable lesson I learned in her class was the numerous mistakes of procrastination and not thinking ahead. The class takes a lot of input on the student's part in order to receive your *earned* grade.

It does not just take a *smart* person to pass an AP class. It takes a person who is dedicated and responsible willing to work for their education. There will be troubles there is no denying that however, it is all in how you deal with those issues in order to get whatever needs to be done, done. The class is only as hard as you make it to be meaning whatever you do or don't do at the end of the day was ultimately your decision. Hard work does pay off, and this AP class gives that saying its meaning.

Sincerely,

Brianna Mercado