

Dr. Watts  
email: [ewatts@koheletyeshiva.org](mailto:ewatts@koheletyeshiva.org)

2010-2011

AP ENGLISH  
Journey to Identity

**Texts:**

*The British Tradition*, Prentice Hall  
*The Odyssey*, Homer  
“The Allegory of the Cave,” Plato  
“A Modest Proposal,” Swift

**Novels**

*Candide*, Voltaire  
*Frankenstein*, Shelley  
*Crime and Punishment*, Dostoevsky  
*The Trial*, Kafka  
*Heart of Darkness*, Conrad

**Plays**

*Oedipus Rex*, Sophocles  
*Hamlet*, Shakespeare  
*Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, Stoppard  
*A Doll's House*, Ibsen  
*The Lover*, Pinter  
*Krapp's Last Tape*, Beckett  
*The Bald Soprano*, Ionesco

**Grades**

12 AP-length essays (500 words) – 50% 4 3-5-page papers – 25% Practice AP Exam is the Final – 25%

**It is vitally important for students to keep up with the reading and to be in class physically and mentally every day.**

**Course Structure:**

**Quarter 1** examines literary journey metaphors and types of journeys in physical, psychological and intellectual spaces.

**Texts:** *Crime and Punishment*; *Oedipus Rex*, *The Odyssey*; “*The Allegory of the Cave*.”

**Quarter 2** explores metaphoric journeys, satire and human nature.

**Texts:** *Prentice Hall Literature. The British Tradition; The Canterbury Tales* (Selections); Metaphysical poetry; Sonnets by Surrey, Sidney and Shakespeare; *Hamlet; The Tragedy of Dr. Faustus; Paradise Lost* (Selections); *Candide*; “A Modest Proposal;” “The Rape of the Lock” (Excerpts).

**Quarter 3** analyzes the education and development of the self relative to society.

**Texts:**

Representative works of Romantic poets Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Keats, Shelley and Byron; “The Vindication of the Rights of Women” (Excerpts); *Frankenstein; A Doll’s House, Heart of Darkness*;

**Quarter 4** examines existentialism and distinctions between role and self in Postmodern drama and Theater of the Absurd.

**Texts:** *The Trial, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, The Lover, Krapp’s Last Tape, The Bald Soprano.*

**Objectives:**

To prepare students to perform successfully on the AP English Exam, this course seeks:

To increase students’ understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of poetry, fiction and drama;

To teach close-reading techniques;

To give students a working vocabulary of literary terminology, rhetorical devices and techniques, e.g., genre, metaphor, symbol, allusion, iron, image, plot, characterization, point of view, etc.;

To teach students how the constituent elements of a text function together to create meaning and art;

To teach students to put their literary interpretations into writing in the form of papers and essay examinations;

To enable students to identify thematic and structural evolution of genres over time, and to recognize how major literary traditions develop;

To demonstrate ways in which literary themes and concerns are intimately related to students’ concerns and values;

To introduce students to multi-cultural and European literature;

To prepare students for college-level English course work.

**Paper Policy:**

I encourage front-loaded revisions, that is, a paper's due date is the LAST DAY that a paper may be submitted. All rewrites should be done prior to that, allowing sufficient turn-around time. **You may submit to me as many rewrites as you wish, prior to the paper's due date.** This puts the onus of organization and time on you AND me! Papers are due at the beginning of class and are considered 1 day late if submitted after that time on that day.

Late Papers will lose 10 points per day that they are late, including all weekdays, even those days on which we do not have class. This policy is intended to teach you time management and responsibility. Of course, if extenuating circumstances prevent you from completing an assignment, you must inform me as soon as possible. If you have any questions or difficulties please feel free to email me.

**Emailed Papers:**

You may email me thesis sentences, ideas, questions and individual paragraphs, but I will not print out any papers.

AN EMAILED PAPER HAS NOT BEEN HANDED IN. YOU MUST HAND IN PAPERS IN CLASS IN HARD COPY.

**Dr. Watts' s Classroom Policies and Expectations:**

- 1) If you are unprepared for class, including not having your book(s), you will receive a "U" for the day. Three "U"s earn you a detention, and things get more interesting from there.
- 2) When you are absent, YOU must find out what you have missed and what you need to hand in.
- 3) Have a designated buddy in the class who will take notes for you and

fill you in on assignments, etc., when you are absent. Or, you can always contact me. It is not my responsibility to track you down and tell you what you missed.

- 4) **All papers must be printed** before you come to school the day they are due. Do not wait to print them in school. Technology is not 100% reliable and undoubtedly the printers will not work or need toner precisely when you need to print out a paper. Do not give me a disk with your paper on it..
- 5) You will arrive on time for class.
- 6) You will come to class prepared with pencil, pen, notebook, homework, papers, and text, having read and thought about the assigned pages.
- 7) You will listen carefully to directions the first time they are given.
- 8) Once you have crossed the classroom threshold, there is NO returning to your locker.
- 9) You will NOT chew gum, eat, or drink anything in class EXCEPT water.
- 10) You will NOT have cell phones on in class. Per school policy, cell phones must remain in your locker. Any phones that appear in class

will be confiscated and given to the administration, from whom YOU must retrieve them.

- 11) You will be mentally present in class. You will treat each other and me with respect.
- 12) You will hand in all work on time, barring extenuating circumstances.
- 13) Disruptive classroom behavior robs you and your classmates. The consequences of such behavior are detentions with me and/or Rabbi Weinbach, and calls to your parents.