

The Ivy College Guru

Dr. Gavin Wittje

gavinwit@gmail.com

616-516-3959

2025 Summer Session AP Literature Syllabus A 11-Session Fall Class (11 weeks)

10 Sunday Meetings Scheduled 9/7-11/16 Sundays 10:00am —12pm

11th Class Meeting: Final Full Test 11/16 Sunday 9am - 12pm

I. Purposes and Rationale of the Class

The Ivy College Guru's Dr. Gavin Wittje has designed this AP Literature and Composition Preparation class in order to ensure that the attendants of the class will be able to take the AP LIT test in May and will receive a 5 on the test.

With the restrictions of AP classes in some schools, many juniors are NOT allowed to take the AP English classes at all, while these juniors are trying to increase their opportunities to receive higher AP Scholar Awards before they apply to colleges. So this AP prep class is intended for both current AP LIT takers in school and non-AP LIT takers in your high school. You will have a slight edge if you are taking AP LIT in your school, but even if you are just taking a regular English class or a literature honors class, you can and should still take the AP LIT or the AP Lang test or BOTH in May and still score 5's, with the help of this class and my other AP Lang class.

Last year, 90% of our AP LIT students received 5's in their AP LIT tests, while nationally only 6.8% of the AP LIT testing students received 5!

For some students who are taking the AP LIT in school, their teachers in school teach it as a regular English class and do not specifically prepare the students for taking the AP LIT test in May. As a result, many students in the past who finished the AP LIT class in school and still failed to get 5 in their AP LIT test. While many of you are automatically taking AP calculus and/or AP sciences and/or other AP classes and tests, not many of you are taking AP English tests. Top college admission officers have a stereotypical view about Asian American applicants: they take it for granted that we are good at the STEM areas, but not good enough in English and Humanities, and are, therefore, not all-rounded enough for top colleges.

It is precisely to get out of this Asian American stereotypical image that we all should be-excellent in our English Literature and Language as we are excellent in our calculus and science subjects.

II. Major Contents of the Class

The class will consist of the following specific contents and learning objectives:

1. Guided study, understanding, and memorization of all terminologies and nomenclatures of the English literature and English language that might be encountered in AP LIT tests.
2. Careful studies of AP LIT multiple-choice questions with an emphasis on reading comprehension and understanding of the narrative passages encountered in AP LIT.
3. Guided studies and strategies of poems and poetic analysis, which are essential components of AP LIT tests.
4. Development and mastery of specific strategies for writing the three AP LIT essays: the poetry essay, the prose fiction essay, and the free response essay on your own chosen novel.
5. Practice, practice, and lots of practice before you take your actual AP LIT test.

III. Textbooks and Study Materials

The class requires two AP Literature and Composition Prep books:

1. The Ivy College Guru AP Literature Reader 2025 (Compiled by Dr. Gavin Wittje at The Ivy College Guru)
2. Barron's AP English Literature and Composition Premium (Barron's) (ISBN: 978-1506287713) In addition to the above books, the instructor will distribute additional handouts and AP LIT practice tests and exercise throughout the class.

IV. 11-Session Schedule of the AP English Literature and Composition Class/For each class, there will be an assignment sheet. Please finish all assignments.

IV. Schedule of the Class (an assignment sheet will be in the Reader for each class

Week/Date	Class Contents
Week 1	Introduction of the AP Lit /Book List Review 2, Quiz I on Language Terminology 3. Study glossary and terminology 4. A diagnostic M-C test/Questions/Answers and Explanations
Week 2	1. Quiz 2 on Literary Terminology 2/25 2. Mastering M-C Questions/Poetry M-C Questions 3. Novel Excerpts/Prose M-C Question 4. Poem M-C Questions 5. Types of M-C Questions 6. In-Class Exercises of Multiple Choice Questions
Week 3	1. Quiz 3 on Literary Terminology 3/4 2. M-C Questions Review and Practice 3.

	Poetic Analysis 4. AP Test M-C Question Practice
Week 4	1, Quiz 4: Comprehensive Quiz on Literary Terms 2. Real AP Lit Practice M-C Test 3. Language, Styles, Forms of Poetry 4, Strategies on Poetry Essay (I)
Week 5	1. Strategies on Poetry Essay (II) 2. In-Class Poetry Essay Writing Practice 3. Grammar and Writing Skills (1)
Week 6	1. Strategies for Prose Excerpt Essay (I) 3/25 2. Grammar and Writing Skills (2) 3. In-Class Essay-Writing Practice
Week 7	1. Strategies for Prose Excerpt Essay (II) 4/1 2. Grammar and Writing Skills (3) 3. In-Class Essay Writing Practice
Week 8	1. Strategies on Own Novel/Play Essay (I) 2. In-Class Essay-Writing Practices Strategies on Analytical Essay (II)
Week 9	1. Strategies on Own Novel/Play Essay (11) 2. In-Class Practice on Own Novel/Play Essay 3. Comments and Discussions on Essays
Week 10	I. Instructor Gives Feedback to Individual Students on your own Novel/Play essays 2. Practice One More M-C Test (Section 1) 3. Continue to Work on your Novel/Play open essays
Week 11	1. Comprehensive AP Literature Test (a full AP Test) 2. Answers and Explanations for the M-C part 3. Test scores to be emailed to you after the class ends

Practice, practice, and more practice. The instructor will give you more practice questions after the class!