**Signature Page**

To: Joseph Masser, Teacher of AP Literature and Composition 2014-15

From: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Please print name legibly)

I have read your letter and guidelines carefully, and I understand that AP Literature and Composition is a rigorous college-level course requiring a heavy time, energy, and intellectual commitment.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Please sign name here)

Email address:

Home phone:

Parent/Guardian Response

We have read these pages carefully, and we understand the many commitments in time management and academic discipline needed to succeed in this class. We also understand that the cost of the exam will be borne out by our child or ourselves.

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Parent/Guardian signature Parent/Guardian signature

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Print name of above signature Print name of above signature

May 2014

Dear Prospective AP Student:

I am pleased to see that you are enrolled in AP English Literature and Composition (AP12) next year. I would like to take this opportunity to give some guidelines that should help you succeed. This class will challenge students with extensive reading in various literary modes, as well as rigorous and in-depth written and oral analysis of texts. A student’s grade will receive AP weighting only if he/she sits for the exam. The coursework will be geared toward success on that test in addition to providing a broad foundational study of literature at the college level. A student should expect at least one hour of homework each night, frequently in the form of reading, completing response journals, writing essays and preparing oral presentations.

While I am aware that many seniors take multiple AP courses during the year, balancing those obligations along with any extra-curricular activities will be the responsibility of the student. As this course carries college weight, it must also carry the learning expectations and responsibilities of a college course. For that reason, papers are due on the assigned due date, without exception, and late penalties will be in effect if they are not completed as such. It is also your responsibility to make up all work missed due to absences within the timelines established in the student handbook. Multiple student-teacher after-school writing conferences (between 2:30 and 3:10) are also mandatory, so if you are involved with after-school activities, you will be expected to make time to attend these conferences as they will affect your grade.

The expectation is that an AP student will read fully, understand, analyze and synthesize ideas from the reading assignments and bring this preparation to a class discussion or activity. Reliance on external sources (i.e. *Spark Notes*) or reading without understanding will be easily identifiable and have a negative influence on your ability to participate in discussions, and complete assignments and therefore significantly affect your grade.

Formal grading criteria will be discussed during the first week of school.

**Please read the following works over the course of the summer and come prepared to be assessed on your reading on the first day of school: *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley, *1984* by George Orwell** and ***The Handmaid’s Tale* by Margaret Atwood.**  These texts are available for purchase at The Califon Book Store, Amazon.com or at larger chain bookstores as well as from the VHS media center and public library systems.

**Please review and complete the attached page, and return it to my classroom, 223, by Friday 6/6.** If you have any questions, email me at [jmasser@nhvweb.net](mailto:jmasser@nhvweb.net). I’m looking forward to a great year!

Sincerely,

Mr. Masser