

KAP/English 103 & 104 Course Syllabus 2017-2018
Ridgewood High School Instructor: Jill Evans- Collins

This course is designed to develop and enhance the skills of effective communication and to develop a clearer understanding of what it means to look closely at a literary text. We will draw from a wide chronological range and from major literary genres. Identity, growth and life's pilgrimage are some of the many themes we will explore. Emphasis will be on the literary works' timeless applicability to life. Class sessions are based on discussion of the literature. Students are expected to recognize literary devices and style and assimilate these in their personal prose.

Students will write essays and develop portfolios. Revision will be emphasized. From the personal narrative to the persuasive to research, a rich variety of writing types will be explored. For the literary analysis, course emphasis is placed on the student's own interpretation of the classic. However, the Shakespearean tragedy essay and the *Jane Eyre* essay will include documentation of essays supporting the paper's thesis. One research paper will be assigned, this year the focus is ethics. Throughout the year, the class will improve vocabulary with *Sadlier Oxford Level G* and the *Joy of Vocabulary*, which provides an excellent examination of word origin.

Nonfiction reading will include a class examination a selection from the following: *The Great Gatsby*, *Citizen: An American Lyric*, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, *I Am Malala* and possible excerpts from a variety of works: *The World is Flat*, *the Lost Boys of the Sudan*, *The Last Lecture*, *Persepolis*, and *Outcasts United*. Fictional text include but are not limited to: *Beowulf*, an epic; novels, *Jane Eyre*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *All the King's Men*, *Heart of Darkness*, *Lord Jim*; the Shakespearean tragedies *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, the Shakespearean work, *The Tempest*; Shakespearean sonnets; Canterbury Prologue and Tales; literature of the Arthurian legend with excerpts from Mallory, White and Tennyson, and other works from literary anthologies. Each literary age or work will be followed by an essay examination. The students' assessment will be based on the clear development of a response, the ability to draw from the literary work with specific and relevant support, the citation of pertinent events in the artist's life and the age and the recognition of the universality of the work. In addition a study of both American or English poets and poetry and the elements of poetry will be a part of the course.