

**2014 Ad Astra
English Language and Composition
Advanced Placement Summer Institute
New AP Teachers
July 21-24, 2014**

Institute Overview

This institute is designed for teachers of AP English Language. During the week we will focus on preparing students success in upper level academic courses and for the exam through practice in critical-thinking strategies in reading, strategies for analysis, and strategies for constructing argument. Since the primary purpose of the course is to emphasize academic writing as well as reflective writing, participants will receive several ideas for different kinds of writing exercises and writing assignments, with a focus on Classical Arrangement and the Toulmin model of developing an argument. Since students are required to complete a researched argument as part of the successful completion of the AP English Language course, participants will examine the difference between a traditional research paper and the researched argument, and discuss possible topics. AP English Language students need many opportunities to discuss and clarify the challenging nonfiction reading with which they will be presented; therefore, summer participants will have some hands-on experiences with discussion techniques such as jigsaw and carousel discussions. A simulated reading of the 2014 questions will be conducted, and participants will receive sample student papers and strategies for using those samples for instructional purposes. Each summer participant will be expected to complete 1-2 readings per night in preparation for the next day's discussion.

Consultant Background

Sandra Coker taught high school English and social studies for twenty-seven years. She most recently taught AP English Language at Westlake High School in Austin, Texas. She is a veteran AP teacher and College Board consultant for AP English Language professional development. Ms. Coker is also a faculty consultant for The College Board and the Educational Testing Service as a Reader, Table Leader, Exam Leader, and Question Leader for the AP English Language Exam. In addition, she is a consultant and mentor for Louis Educational Concepts. Ms. Coker is co-author of *Analysis, Argument, and Synthesis* and *Writing the Synthesis Essay*, and she authored the online professional development *Reading to Write* for The College Board. She also served as a member of the committee to write and compile the *Texas Education Agency's Lighthouse Initiative for English Language Arts Classrooms, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and the Advanced Placement Program*.

Institute Preparation

Participants should bring the following:

- your AP Language syllabus, as approved by the College Board audit
- sticky notes, pens/pencils, highlighters, writing pad
- a laptop would be helpful

Institute Schedule

Monday, July 21

- Overview of AP English Language course expectations
- Course outline options
- Rhetorical analysis

Tuesday, July 22

- Continue rhetorical analysis
- Connections to 2014 exam: essay response and multiple-choice

Wednesday, July 23

- Argumentation (analysis and construction)
- Documented argument
- Argument connections to 2014 exam

Thursday, July 24

- Developing synthesis skills (writing exercises, jigsaw discussion, researched argument)
- Synthesis connections to 2014 exam

Graduate Credit Options

Participants may also earn three graduate education hours for any of the AP Summer Institutes from Washburn University for a reduced tuition rate for the successful completion of an academic assignment.

Additional Information

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