



A Modesto City School

Johansen High School

Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships

641 Norseman Drive, Modesto, CA. 95357

(209) 574-1760 • Fax (209) 574-1761 • <http://www.jhs4kids.com>

ADMINISTRATION

8/28/2019

Nathan Schar
Principal

Dear Parents and Student,

Phuc Pham-Goulart
*Associate Principal
Curriculum &
Instruction*

Congratulations! Your student has elected to enroll in International Baccalaureate Program or Advanced Placement English Language and Composition or Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition for the coming term. This choice testifies to his/her motivation and willingness to work. Each year, when class lists are finalized, the Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Program teaching staff contacts parents and students to provide information about Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Program studies and their expectations of students.

Craig Springer
*Assistant Principal
Pupil Services*

In Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Program studies the goal is to provide a quality literary experience that prepares students to succeed on Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate program examinations and in college. To do this, we must challenge them and ask them to confront ideas that may be foreign to their experience. The reading material is difficult and sometimes controversial.

Anthony Ball Jr.
*Assistant Principal
Student Supervision*

Because these courses are so challenging, it is important that all participants are informed of the following issues in advance. As you and your student decide whether Advanced Placement is an appropriate setting, please consider carefully the following:

1. Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Program courses are highly demanding. Students should expect to read from two-four major works of literature over the summer. They should expect homework most nights as well as considerable writing both in class and at home as preparation for the essay portion of the Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Program exams. Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Program students should be prepared to make some sacrifices in order to succeed.
2. Advanced Placement English courses, as college-level courses, require the core works specified by Modesto City Schools in the adopted course descriptions.

Advanced Placement College Board provides a list of recommended authors of the past and present whose works are foundational to college level literature classes.

3. The International Baccalaureate Program at Modesto High incorporates the district core literature works within the scope and guidelines established by the International Baccalaureate organization. International Baccalaureate Examinations emphasize masterpieces of world literature in an integrated grades nine through twelve cross-curricular study.



A Modesto City School

Johansen High School

Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships

641 Norseman Drive, Modesto, CA. 95357

(209) 574-1760 • Fax (209) 574-1761 • <http://www.jhs4kids.com>

Students and parents need to know that some of these materials contain mature and sexually explicit subject matter. Works taught in Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Program courses are readings from board-approved titles. It should be emphasized that some may find certain works challenging and perhaps even objectionable. These works are included in the course because they are of significant literary value. Attached is an annotated list of the works to be studied in Pre-AP/IB and AP/IB English classes.

If a particular work is personally objectionable to a parent or student, an alternate assignment may be provided. While the student may complete the alternate assignment without compromising his/her class grade, it should be understood that the alternate work will not be discussed in class. As a result, the student's understanding of it may be limited and the usefulness of the alternate title in responding to AP/IB exam questions may be affected. Thus, the combination of an alternate title which is not discussed and declining to read the assigned title may impact a student's chance of success on the exam. Our preference is that students read the assigned books. However, we respect your right as parents to request that the instructor provide an alternate selection or to request assignment to a college preparatory English class.

Modesto City Schools Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate staffs welcome the opportunity to work with your student. If you wish to discuss this matter further or initiate a program change, please contact the appropriate staff member at the number listed below.

Sincerely,

Phuc Pham-Goulart
Associate Principal
Curriculum & Instruction