

COMMUNICATION ARTS PROGRAM



SEPTEMBER newsletter

9th GRADE	Drama with Ms. Jeral	English with Dr. Simel	US History with Mr. Grossman	Photography with Mr. Bustillos
	<p>We have begun to establish basic scene elements such as setting, character objectives and physicality using improvisation and the exercises of Uta Hagen and Eric Morris . We will analyze <i>The Glass Menagerie</i> and <i>All My Sons</i> in the context of the “Modern” period, and will enact an excerpt from either play incorporating techniques learned in class. We will view a live performance this quarter as well, and will create an effective review. Most importantly, CAP 9 students are finding their confidence this quarter within our fun and supportive class community!</p>	<p>We will have the opportunity to make even more friends as we team up with new people for the Gilded Age Interdisciplinary Project, during which the CAP Suite will be turned into a turn-of-the century ballroom. Students should start thinking about costumes - as members of the 500 Club and as protesters - but should not buy any. They might want to remember Thoreau's admonition to, "Beware of all enterprises that require new clothes."</p>	<p>We are exploring the political and economic links between Reconstruction, the industrialization of the US and westward expansion in preparation for an essay in which we will evaluate the ideas of Booker T. Washington and W.E.B DuBois in the context of racial inequity in contemporary America.</p>	<p>We just finished setting up the digital portfolios and added a student bio with a pic. You can see all the digital portfolios at:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">www.capportfolios.blogspot.com</p>

Journalism with Ms. Cullen	English with Ms. Fillman	AP NSL with Ms. Russell	Media and Production with Mr. Mayo	10th GRADE
<p>We just finished our first editorial and are beginning our unit on interviewing skills.</p>	<p>We have been analyzing propaganda, persuasive appeals and rhetorical techniques in speeches (dystopian movie clips and real political speeches), <i>1984</i> and current articles. We are finding that Orwell's dystopian predictions aren't too exaggerated after all! We also gave speeches using those techniques to rally the proles.</p>	<p>We are finishing up our Constitutional foundations unit. This will give students the historical context needed to build basic familiarity with the Constitution and an understanding of the modern working government.</p>	<p>We just wrapped up a short green screen project. Students experimented with creating special effects using collapsable green screens in small production groups. We are now in the planning and brainstorming phase for our next project, dystopian trailers.</p>	

11th GRADE

<p>AP Language and Composition with Ms. Plotinsky</p>	<p>AP Modern World History with Mr. Mogge</p>	<p>Research Methods with Mr. Shindel</p>
<p>AP Language is exploring the presence and influence of rhetoric in every text. Our goal is to determine where persuasion crops up organically within a text and to determine how and why strategies are effective. Students just completed their second timed writing of the semester, and we'll be doing a scoring workshop this week to help make the rubric and grading rationale for writing assignments absolutely clear. We've also begun <i>Native Son</i>, and we'll engage in analysis about Wright's purpose in writing the book and debate the effects of his arguments.</p>	<p>The 11th grade interdisciplinary theme for this quarter is a focus on the extent to which humans are shaped by their environment. We analyzed the transition of many early civilizations from hunter/gathering to agriculture and pastoralism. This settlement and the urbanization that resulted altered the human experience and their relationship to other species and the planet. Our summer reading, <i>Ishmael</i>, helped to start an ongoing discussion of the long-term impact of human development. Recently we explored the tenets of Taoism and Confucianism and how they influenced early Chinese thought and practice. Our culminating activity was an analysis of <i>The Art of War</i>, in which we used a neo-Confucian approach to undertake a practical application of the ideas of Sun Tzu. Students filed a briefing report in which they used specific recommendations from Sun Tzu to advise President Obama on his current policy toward ISIS. This policy debate is prevalent in international affairs and the emerging Presidential campaign. In the near future we will be studying the rise of empires in the Classical Age and evaluate their achievements as well as the factors that contributed to their ultimate decline.</p>	<p>Juniors in CAP Research Methods have laid a wonderful foundation for many of the concepts and topics that we will explore the rest of the year. Discussions have been exciting and engaging for most. Over the next couple of weeks, we will focus on helping individuals and groups develop a research question that will guide much of their work for the rest of the semester. We will also compare different research methods and goals.</p>

Senior Seminar with Mr. Grossman

The CAP seniors are ferociously working on college essays, practicing public speaking and exploring the basic tenants of emotional intelligence in preparation for senior presentations scheduled for December 9th and 10th.

12th GRADE



Take a look at our new set for InfoFlow!



Eric Moreno, Yohannes Temm and William Gorman rapping about Western Expansion in US History



Augustin Saah, Chas Goldman and Darien Price working on green screen project and special effects.