

## AP English Literature and Composition

### James Garner Biography:

James Garner holds a BA in Journalism Education and an MA in Communications from Northeastern State University. He has been a writer, editor, and manager for several regional newspapers, winning Associated Press awards in two states, and is a former Assistant Managing Editor for Community Publishers, Inc., of Bentonville, Ark. He has been an AP English Instructor for 16 years and currently teaches at Decatur High School, in Decatur, Ark. He has been an AP Reader for the AP Literature and Composition Exam for nine years and is currently teaching AP Language and Composition, AP Literature and Composition, Sophomore English, Oral Communications, and Forensics/Debate. In addition to being a College Board Consultant, James is an Edmodo Certified Trainer and has, since 2011, presented a variety of sessions on incorporating technology and Internet learning platforms into English curriculums at national conferences, including the AP Annual Conference, the National Association of Gifted Children's Annual Conference, the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention, the Quality Matters Annual Convention, and, most recently, the Future of Education Technology Conference 2016. He has also written peer-reviewed articles for several educational publications, provided professional development at the school and district level, and served on a variety of state education committees. In addition, he was a featured speaker for EdmodoCon 2014 - a live webinar broadcast to over 40,000 viewers logged-in worldwide.

### Course Description:

This session will incorporate a full analysis of the exam itself, and a discussion of practical strategies that help students prepare for both the essay responses and the multiple-choice section.

Sample essays from the AP Readings will be covered and discussed in detail, through practice readings and practice analysis. Effective classroom lessons, designed to promote close critical reading, will be shared and practiced. Also, attendees will spend some time practicing new classroom techniques to promote both poetry and prose writing development.

In addition to the AP exam and program, this session will address such topics as student selection processes, the College Board policy of equity and access, selection of appropriate texts, the maintenance and expansion of the literary canon, the frequency and extent of composition and revision, the promotion of clear and cogent writing, the development of voice, Internet instruction, summer reading, and other appropriate topics.

A few short readings will be required during the program to promote discussion and to be used as pieces for analysis.

Attendees should visit the AP English Literature and Composition section of the College Board website <[www.collegeboard.com/apcentral](http://www.collegeboard.com/apcentral)>, and familiarize themselves with the online materials available there.

Teachers attending this session will be given some time to share their best practices/best lessons with their peers and gain insights to improve their own practices and assignments. Another objective for the week is that teachers will leave the session refreshed and prepared to return with enthusiasm to their students.

### What to Bring:

- Piece (or pieces) of fiction with which they can construct meaningful lessons
- One or two of your best lessons/activities to share
- Laptop/tablet for Internet sessions
- Notebook/paper/pencil/pen/highlighters
- Appropriate clothing for temperature fluctuations in the facility