I'M WORKING WITH A TUTOR. WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO DO THAT?
First, inform your teacher that you are working with a tutor. Provide your tutor with your teacher’s email address and ask him/her to email your teacher so that the two of them can connect to speak about your learning. When you are working on a Signature Assessment, the tutor may not edit the work for you; however, he/she can assist by stimulating your thinking about the piece, posing questions and coaching you in areas identified by your teacher. Refer to the document in Student Services called “How to Work With Your Tutor”.

WHY WOULD I TAKE AN ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) ENGLISH COURSE?
BSS offers two AP English courses: AP Language in Grade 11(3UI) and AP Literature in Grade 12 (4UI). If you are a strong reader with effective written and oral communication skills, have an interest in both language and literature, and are comfortable doing regular in-class timed writing you may wish to pursue the AP stream.

In AP Language you will read and explore much more non-fiction than in ENG3U. The focus of the course is the study of language and rhetoric in fiction and non-fiction texts, argumentation orally and in writing, and the ability to integrate reading and research of all kinds in a variety of writing modes.

AP Literature differs from Grade 11 AP Language through its emphasis on fiction, poetry and drama. Even if you haven’t taken Gr. 11 AP, if you’re interested in imaginative literature, you might want to choose AP Literature in Gr. 12. As the external exam is in early May, the pace of the AP class, especially through the fall, is more rapid than ENG4U.

Ideally you would take an AP course because you love the subject matter and want to challenge yourself. Sometimes university plans will also influence your decision to take an AP course. Selective universities in the US and UK will look to AP courses to help determine the rigour of a students' program. There is no right number of AP courses to take and just because BSS offers AP English courses does not mean that a student needs to take them. That said, AP courses are excellent preparation for undergraduate study anywhere in the world, especially depending on your passion and the kind of rigour you’d like to take on in high school and beyond. Students who are interested in anything from the Humanities to the Liberal Arts and Sciences to Communications may be interested in completing an AP English course.

AP English is not required but may be recommended when applying to US or UK universities.