

***Columbiana County Career and Technical Center
2011-2012 Course Syllabus
English 11- First Semester***

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Course Description:

Welcome to English 11! This is a junior level English course that fulfills a requirement for high school graduation. The class is a semester long, and we will meet every day during an 84-minute block.

The course is based on the Ohio Academic Content Standards for junior level English/Language Arts. We will focus on building skills in the following areas: Acquisition of Vocabulary, Reading Process: Concepts of Print, Comprehension Strategies, and Self-Monitoring Strategies, Reading Applications: Informational, Technical, and Persuasive Text, Reading Applications: Literary Text, Writing Process, Writing Applications, Writing Conventions, Research, and Communication: Oral and Visual. These are state-mandated standards that must be covered in the classroom.

Students in this course are expected to be prepared, put forth effort, and, ultimately, be successful in the class. The readings will mainly focus on American Literature, but we will complete several types of writing assignments including technical and career-based writing. In addition to various types of literature and writing, students should be prepared for oral presentations and group work. Students will be responsible for managing their time wisely and keeping track of all assignments and papers.

Because every student learns differently, I will use various types of instruction to relay the material. These instructional practices include oral presentations, group and individual projects, research, class discussions, group work, several types of writing assignments, lecture, and assignments involving technology.

Instructional Philosophy:

Every student has the ability to learn, but this does not mean that all students learn in the same manner. For this reason, I have set up the class in a way that allows for every student to receive an equal and positive education. Because of this variation in learning styles, I expect students to speak up if the material is not coming across to them in a clear and understandable manner despite my best efforts to make it as comprehensible as possible.

One of my main goals as a teacher is to share my love of writing, literature, and the English language to my students. Having said this, I expect that all students will contribute to the class and put forth effort into becoming successful learners. Although I will do my best to make every student learn, students are expected to actively participate in their own learning. With my passion and the students' willingness to learn, this class will be an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

Students are expected to come to class prepared, be attentive, cooperate with others, and be respectful of themselves, their peers, and their teachers. Failure to comply with school policies and classroom rules will result in discipline from the teacher and school administration.

Students will keep a folder in my classroom that will contain all completed assignments. They are to keep track of their folders and assignments. They will also keep a notebook (provided by me) for notes and journal entries. Parents are always welcome to meet with me in my classroom (room B-13) to see what their child has been doing in class.

Course Goals and Objectives:

The major objectives of the course are as follows:

- Reading (Literary) - The student is expected to read with understanding, identify literary elements, analyze a work, and explain techniques used in that literary work.
- Reading (Technical) - The student will identify and evaluate methods of persuasion and analyze the content of the material.
- Writing - Students will use the writing process for paragraphs, short essays, literary reflections, and research. The students will be expected to use writing conventions correctly in their work.
- Communication - Students will be expected to prepare speeches to be presented to the class, as well as oral presentations with visual displays.

Major Course Assignments and Projects:

Everything we complete in the class is important to student learning. These are the largest assignments we will complete. They are subject to change at my discretion.

- 1) Career Passport- Students will complete their career passport that consists of several documents including a resume, a reference sheet, verification of employability skills, and a writing sample. We will also be completing other types of business writing in conjunction with the career passport.
- 2) Research
- 3) Essay Writing
- 4) Two assigned novels with accompanying assignments, a creative project, and a presentation.
- 5) Two outside novels of choice. One per nine weeks. **Due: October 14th and January 6th. These Independent Reading Projects are due on the due date assigned – this is absolute!!! It must be sent with a friend or parent/guardian on the due date if the student is unable to make it to school. The only exception is if the student's home school is canceled due to inclement weather or other last minute circumstances.**
- 6) Literary Analysis on all types of literature.
- 7) Class Notebooks

Course Assessment Plan:

Grades will be determined using a point system. Assignments will be assigned points depending on the difficulty and size of the assignment. The following is a tentative breakdown of how assignments will affect a student's semester grade. Although it may change slightly throughout the course, this is a fairly accurate account of how a student's grade will be tallied:

- Journals **10%**- Journals will not be completed every day. They will be unannounced and ***cannot be made up if a student misses class.***
- Participation **10%**- Students are expected to actively participate in classroom discussion. This can be whole group discussion, small group discussion, or group activity.
- Writing Assignments **25%**- The writing assignments will vary in size. These will be graded on a rubric that will accompany each writing assignment.
- Projects/Presentations/Tests/Quizzes **40%**- Expectations for these assignments will be clear, and a rubric will be available for each project and presentation. We will be doing a large number of projects and presentations.
- Semester Exam/Project **15%**

Rubrics

A rubric is a grading tool that is used to allow students to know exactly which criteria are being met and graded during an assignment/project. For each assignment, a different rubric may be used to grade on the areas that are to be emphasized during that assignment/project. To see an example of a grading rubric, please contact me, and I will send one home with your child.

Behavior Plan

Classroom Rules/Policies and Expectations:

****Ms. Bielik reserves the right to amend these rules at any time.***

1. **Be on Time:** You are expected to be in your seat before the bell rings - tardiness is not tolerated. If you come to class late, you must have a valid hall pass. You will The first offense will result in a verbal warning, the second offense will result in a call home, and the third offense, will result in a referral to the administration.
2. **Respect:** I give respect to all of my students, and I expect it in return. Students must also treat each other respectfully. When I am speaking or other students are sharing their insight, you should be quiet and listening. When I say quiet, I do not mean sleeping (YOU MUST BE ATTENTIVE!).
3. **Negativity:** This goes along with respect. We all have different tastes, opinions, and backgrounds. Although you may not agree with another individual (including me), you must not make negative or derogatory comments. This includes verbal and non-verbal (making faces, hand gestures, etc.) comments.
4. **Participation:** All students must participate in the classroom. This is not a chance for you to catch up on sleep or other homework assignments. Instead, I expect you to engage in the content taught in this class.
5. **Questions:** Ask questions! I would love to answer any questions you may have about anything class-related. Just raise your hand, and I will answer you.
6. **Be Prepared:** All students are expected to come to class prepared. You must have your pens, pencils, notebooks, paper, books, assignments, and any other materials you are asked to bring.
7. **Food and Drink:** The only food or drink you may have in the classroom is water. There may be times where other foods or drinks may be allowed, but that will only be with my and the administration's permission.
8. **Profanity:** Profanity will not be permitted in the classroom. Profane language may result in a referral to the administration.
9. **Absences:** You will not be permitted to make up work for any unexcused absences, and they will negatively affect your grade. You will be given one day to make up work for an unexcused absence, ***but it is your responsibility to find out what you missed while you were gone!!!***
10. **Leaving the Classroom:** You must have your student agenda in order to leave my classroom for any reason.
11. **Late Work:** I will accept late work **UP TO FIVE DAYS AFTER THE DUE DATE**. Points will be deducted for each day the assignment is late. The amount of points will vary depending on the worth of the assignment. The assignment becomes a zero the 6th day after the assignment's due date.

12. **Cell Phones:** Cell phones are absolutely prohibited in class! Keep them turned off and put away, or I will take it and turn it into administration. The administration and I will then determine the consequences. In addition, if you are caught texting/using your phone during a quiz or test, you will receive a 0%. If your parent/guardian needs to contact you during school, they may call the office.
13. **Dismissal:** I dismiss class – not the bell! You must remain in your seat until I dismiss you. Do NOT line up at the door before the bell rings.
14. **Extra Credit:** You may only do extra credit if all of your assigned work has been completed and turned in to me. I am always willing to give out extra credit.
15. **Paper Submission:** Some student papers will be typed and submitted at school through Turnitin.com. This system checks student writing for plagiarism of any online writings and previously completed student work. Plagiarism is absolutely unacceptable. If you plagiarize, you will receive a zero for the assignment, and the administration will be notified.

Restroom and Nurse Policy:

Usage of the restroom will normally be limited to time in between classes. I may allow students to use the restroom on a limited basis or in times of emergency. In addition, you may see the nurse when you are feeling too ill to remain in class. This is allowable as long as students do not take advantage of this rule. You must have your planner in order to visit either place.

Sleeping Policy

Sleeping is absolutely prohibited in the classroom. There is no reason to sleep in class. If a student is caught sleeping in class, the following actions will be taken:

First Offense: Verbal Warning

Second Offense: Final Verbal Warning

Third Offense: Sent to Office/Nurse Depending Upon Situation

Consequences:

First Offense: Verbal warning/conference with pupil

Second Offense: Phone call to parent(s)/guardian(s)

Third Offense: Conference with parent(s)

Fourth Offense: Conference with counselor

Fifth Offense: Removal from class

Severe Behavior

In the instance of severe behavior (e.g. fighting, continued blatant insubordination, etc.) the student will be removed from class and sent to the administration to receive his/her consequences at the administrator's discretion.

Grading Scale:

91-100: A

81-90: B

71-80: C

61-70: D
Below 61: F
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Week 1 (August 23-26)

- Syllabus Overview
- Assign Independent Reading Project
- Autobiographical Posters
- Writing Assignment 1: “Wanted: A Friend” poster

Week 2 (August 29-September 2)

- Journals
- “Of Mice and Men”
- Questions and vocabulary
- Quiz
- Writing Assignment 2

Week 3 (September 6-9)

- Journals
- “Of Mice and Men”
- Writing Assignment 2
- Questions and vocabulary
- “Of Mice and Men” Bingo
- Vocabulary Review
- “Of Mice and Men” Test

Week 4 (September 12-16)

- Journals
- “Of Mice and Men” movie
- Proverbs and/or Writing Assignment 3
- Achieve 3000
- IRP work

Week 5 (September 19-23)

- Career Passports
- Journals
- Create Your Own Horror Story

Week 6 (September 26- September 30)

- Vocabulary for Horror unit
- Read “The Raven” - assignments
- Watch the movie “Murders in the Rue Morgue” - assignments
- Read “Hop Frog” – assignments
- Edgar Allan Poe Test

Week 7 (October 3-7)

- Journals
- Read “The Feather Pillow” - assignments

- Read “A Rose for Emily”/ Watch video of “A Rose for Emily” -assignments
- Read “Lamb to the Slaughter” - assignments
- Quiz over short stories
- Final Draft - Horror Story

Week 8 (October 10-14)

- Read “The Boogeyman” by Stephen King – complete questions
- Watch “The Green Mile” - Stephen King
- “The Green Mile” test
- IRP work- Must bring your book with you

○ ***IRP due!!!!!! (200 pts) on Friday
October 14th!!!!!!***

Week 9 (October 17-21)

- Assign 2nd Nine weeks Independent Reading Project
- Notes on budgeting, banking and credit
- Budgeting lessons, videos, worksheets
- Banking lessons, videos worksheets
- Credit lessons, videos, worksheets
- Test over Budgeting, Banking and Credit

Week 10 (October 24-28)

- Vietnam research and Vietnam music (**Monday**)
- Fallen Angels: Introduction PowerPoint and General Rules and Guidelines (**Tuesday**)
- Travel for Fallen Angels

Week 11 (October 31-November 4)

- Travel for Fallen Angels (2 days)
- Pre-Reading Assignment (1 day)
- Fallen Angels Chapters 1-5 (2 days)
- Character Journals
- Quizzes
- Assignments

Week 12 (November 7-11)

- Character Journals
- Fallen Angels Chapters 6-11
- Quizzes
- Assignments
- Mid-Point

Week 13 (November 14-18)

- Character Journals
- Fallen Angels Chapters 12-21
- Quizzes
- Assignments

Week 14 (November 21-22)

- Character Journals
- Fallen Angels Chapters 22-23

- Quizzes
- Assignments
- Test - Fallen Angels

Week 15 (November 29- December 2)

- Assignment 8
- Map Project

Week 16 (December 5-9)

- Final Project for Fallen Angels

Week 17 (December 12-16)

- Final Project for Fallen Angels (Due: Friday, Dec. 16th)

Week 18 (January 3-6)

- Poetry Project

- ***IRP due!!!!!!! (200 pts) on Friday
January 6th!!!!!!***

Week 19 (January 9-13)

- Poetry Project (Due: Tuesday, January 13th)
- Modern Literature

Note:

- This course outline is subject to change because of the possibility of inclement weather canceling school. It is up to the teacher's discretion what assignments would be eliminated if the circumstance mentioned above should occur.
- Additional assignments may be **added** or assignments may be **removed** based on the understanding level of the class and the pace at which the class works.
- This is a general guideline of what your students will be doing this year.

- After reading and reviewing the syllabus with your student, please detach this page, complete it, and return it to Ms. Bielik no later than Friday, August 26th, 2011. Thank you.
- Signing this document also tells me that both you and your student are aware of #5 under Major Course Assignments and Projects concerning the Independent Reading Project.

If you have any questions regarding films, or the course in general, please feel free to contact me or schedule a time to meet with me. My number and e-mail are listed on the front page.

Student and Parent/Guardian Signatures:

- We/I have read and reviewed the syllabus and understand what is expected of each student.
- We/I also give my permission for my student to watch a movie with a PG-13 or R rating as long as it is appropriate to the understanding of the curriculum.

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature(s): _____

Date: _____

Please list the following contact information below so that I may update you on your student's progress:

Contact Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____