

English II Syllabus

Mrs. Loree Pals

room and office 0211

Course Description:

This is a year-long course designed to provide sophomores with an overview of literary genres. Students will read selected short stories, poems, plays, a novel and an epic. They will learn to appreciate the distinctive qualities which each possess. Grammar study will emphasize elimination of mechanical errors in their writing as well as parts of speech. To develop their skills in composition, students will write a variety of compositions including paragraphs, multi-paragraph essays and a research project. Vocabulary development will be based on the literary selections and speaking/listening standards will be assessment through various presentations and self-reflection.

Units of Study: Semester One

Unit One Focus: Evaluating Relationships and Choice

Texts: *Of Mice and Men*, John Steinbeck

Skills: Students will explain and support their analysis of theme with specific details from the text.

Unit Two Focus: Using Rhetoric as a Catalyst for Change

Texts: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Skills: evaluate the use of rhetoric in a variety of mediums to strengthen their awareness of authors' purposes. By the end of the unit, students will demonstrate their knowledge through a rhetorical analysis.

Units of Study: Semester Two

Unit One Focus: Achieving Balance in a Functioning Society

Texts: *Fahrenheit 451*

Skills: will collect and synthesize research to create a cohesive argumentative essay which takes a stand on a controversial/societal issue. Students will interact with literature to evaluate and understand the importance of balance within a functioning society.

Unit Two Focus: Finding a Place in Society

Texts: *The LEGO Movie*; *Lord of the Flies*

Skills: Students will explore multiple works of fiction and nonfiction to discover and challenge society's expectations. They will analyze and present their conclusions informally and formally, demonstrating collaboration and presentation skills.

Other Units/Skills of Study:

Presentations
Grammar
Vocabulary
Research

Daily Supplies:

Writing utensils (pen/pencil/highlighter)
Pocket folder
Loose-leaf paper
Required texts*

Grading Policy:

Practice-20%
Process-15%
Assessment-55%
Final Exams-10%

MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL POLICIES:

Grading Scale: 90-100 A 80-89 B 70-79 C 60-69 D 59 or below F

High School Late Work Policy

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If an assignment is turned in past the due date, the most the assignment can be worth is 75% of the total points. After one week, the most the assignment can be worth is 50% of the total points.

Quizzes and Tests: In the event of an excused absence, quizzes and tests can be made up within a reasonable amount of time anytime during a unit. Quizzes and tests from previous units may not be made up and will receive zero credit. Retakes can be accommodated for failing grades but must be approved by the teacher prior.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: Unless otherwise stated, all assignments are to be turned in and completed independently. Students who cheat on or plagiarize assignments may receive a 0% as well as a disciplinary consequence. The consequences for multiple occurrences of cheating are cumulative across subject areas. See department policy.

Tardy Policies:

Be in the door before the bell rings

Electronic Device/Cell Phone Policies:

In their lockers -Students using phones will have their phones confiscated and brought to the front office

CLASSROOM POLICIES:

Our classroom policies can be summed up in one word: **RESPECT**

THE CLASSROOM:

1. Please refrain from eating or drinking in our rooms.
2. Please pick up after yourselves and your peers.
3. Please do not deface desks, books, or any other school or Mrs. Pals' property.

EACH OTHER:

1. Do not talk while others are talking.
2. We are a classroom community-please do not exclude your peers.
3. Be respectful of the opinions of your peers.
4. Keep your hands, feet, belongings, foul language, and negativity to yourself.

YOUR TEACHERS:

1. Do not talk while I am talking. If you are talking while I am talking, I will ask you to be quiet. If I have to ask more than once, the last person talking will be gifted with a consequence-NO QUESTIONS ASKED.
2. If you disagree with a grade, please come see me before or after class to discuss it. I am open to all questions and concerns and promise to address them with an open-mind.
3. Turn in your assignments on time and completed to the best of your abilities. Assignments are due at the beginning of class-not the middle, not the end, not after. No emailed assignments will be accepted unless cleared with me ahead of time.
4. Please wait until you are given permission to pack up your belongings. We dismiss you, not the bell.
5. Keep me in the loop. If there is something prohibiting you from doing your best, let me know. My door/inbox is always open and I will do our best to remedy the problem as soon as possible. I want you to be successful and will approach each situation with an open mind and no judgments.

OFFICE HOURS:

I am available after school in office 3:45 p.m. and by phone until 4:00 p.m.; I am also available during the school by request. Send an email to me (lpals@montrose.k12.mo.us) or leave a note for me if you need me for extra help, to make-

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up a missed assignment, to express a concern, or just to chat. I will answer your questions as quickly as humanly possible. Please allow at least 24 hours for email responses.

Parents and Guardians—Please read the syllabus, fill out and sign this form, and then circle your preferred method of contact. Please don't ever hesitate to call or send email to me.

Student Signature:_____

Student Email:_____ Parent/Guardian

Signature:_____ Preferred Method of Contact

(Circle):

Email:_____/ Phone Number:_____

Other notes or ideas you would like for me to know or learn: