

English IV Course Syllabus

Mrs. Thomas 2023-24

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Any time a student needs extra help, please don't hesitate to contact me and we'll make arrangements.

Course Description/Overview: This course is designed to improve students' ability to read for a variety of purposes, plan and develop several types of writing, apply standard English grammar and usage, speak effectively and listen responsively, and develop higher order thinking skills. This is your last step in learning to be effective communicators before entering the "real world." Students in this course will examine British literature to determine common themes among literary selections and to explore the power of language across time and cultures. Students can also expect vocabulary studies based on Greek and Latin roots as well as a research paper and/or project.

Course Materials:

Textbooks used:

- Into Literature. HMH, 2023.
- The Writer's Craft. McDougal Littell, 1998.
- Writer's Inc. Write Source, 2001.

Items Needed for English III:

Three-ring binder with 5 Dividers

Notebook paper

Pens/pencils

Chromebook or laptop

Box of Tissues and/or Clorox wipes

*Other materials may be needed later for special projects; I will let you know in advance what you need.

Course Policies and Procedures:

1. Students are expected to be a part of a classroom environment conducive to learning. That means we all respect each other so that all can learn. Respect includes remaining silent so others can work during work time and not talking during class presentations. There will be time for both small group and whole group discussions relevant to class material to be learned.
2. Respect also includes other people's feelings, bodies, and property. We will keep our hands to ourselves, not touch other students' computers or cell phones, and not mark on desks or destroy school property, including textbooks. Bullying or violence in any form is not acceptable.
3. **Cell phones are not to be used during class.** Please keep them put away and out of sight. If phones become a distraction, disciplinary action may be taken, such as parent contact, detention, and/or office referral.
4. All rules in the school handbook will be upheld in my classroom. Make sure you are familiar with those guidelines.
5. Be involved! In order to learn, we must all participate in the activities in class. I promise every assignment we do has a purpose.
6. Stay positive, be on time, and turn in given assignments. Please never ever be afraid to ask for help, and never ever give up!
7. Students may be required to sign out for a hall pass/bathroom, etc.

Areas of Study for English IV:

First Semester

Unit 1: Origin of a Nation

History of the English Language

Beowulf

The Canterbury Tales

Le Morte d'Arthur

Chivalry

- Determine themes
- Analyze narrator, conflict, and characterization
- Make inferences
- Evaluate author's purpose
- Analyze tone`
- Write an argumentative essay

College/Career Unit

Write a Personal Memoir

Write College App Essays

Research Paper using both MLA and APA formats, citing at least 5 sources

Unit 2: A Celebration of Human Achievement

Shakespeare's *Macbeth*

Poetry

Sonnets, Pastorals

A Long Way Down

- Analyze dramatic plot, soliloquy, interpretations of drama, and arguments
- Interpret figurative language
- Summarize and paraphrase texts

Second Semester

Unit 3: Tradition and Reason

Satire

A Modest Proposal

Elegy

Comparing Texts

From *Angela's Ashes*

- Analyze satire and development of ideas
- Evaluate rhetorical devices
- Analyze counterarguments
- Integrate and evaluate information
- Analyze narrator and author's point of view

Grading Policies

- Write a literary analysis

Unit 4: Emotion and Experimentation

Poetry

Romanticism

From *Frankenstein*

- Analyze romantic poetry, imagery, stanza structure, rhyme scheme, and symbols
- Evaluate essay
- Analyze ode
- Write a literature-based argumentative essay

Unit 5: An Era of Rapid Change

The Victorian Era—from *Jane Eyre* or from *Pride and Prejudice*

- Analyze first-person point of view, mood, plot, characterization
- Analyze compare and contrast essay
- Analyze sound devices
- Draw conclusions about a speaker
- Socratic Seminar

Unit 6: New Ideas, New Voices

Modernist Poetry

Short Stories

Reflective Essay

- Evaluate an unreliable narrator
- Analyze third person point of view
- Analyze a reflective essay
- Analyze cause-and-effect relationships
- Understand modernist poetry
- Evaluate persuasive techniques
- Analyze deductive reasoning

Novel Study:

The Five People You Meet in Heaven or *1984*

*This is very tentative. We have new textbooks this year, so please understand if I have to make changes as we go.

Please check the school handbook for information about absences this year. If you are absent, you must make up work that was missed. That is YOUR responsibility. You must come to me or refer to Google Classroom to get missed assignments and turn them in.

Typically, two grades will be taken every week. The online grade book is updated weekly. Be sure that you have access to Infinite Campus so you get updates about grades!

Your grade in this course will come from assignments, projects, essays, quizzes and tests. Grades are calculated on a point

system, where tasks of greater complexity and value earn more points.

Late work will only be accepted up to five days after the due date. This is a grace I am giving you for extenuating circumstances, not a reason to procrastinate.

Please understand that this class is required for graduation. You must pass to get your diploma. That means you need to stay focused, despite senioritis.

Please communicate any questions or concerns so I can help!