

English IV Syllabus

Mrs. Loree Pals

room and office 2232

Course Description:

This is a year-long course designed to provide freshman 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: Cultural Heroes

Texts: Beowulf (Burton Raffel)

Skills: Students will be exposed to cross-cultural and archetypal texts in which the history of and relevance of a hero's journey is discussed; furthermore, students will be asked to write several exposition pieces. Lastly, students will be involved in smaller research-oriented tasks.

Unit Two Focus: Searching for Truth

Texts: Macbeth, William Shakespeare

Skills: Students will be exposed to a full-length Shakespearean drama in which the questions of truth and perception are addressed. Students will engage in key historical lens elements to better relate to the tragedy read. Students will be able to connect with the text, along with the historical lens components, to make and support an assertion about the human condition.

Units of Study: Semester Two

Unit One Focus: Relationship with Self and World

Texts: *Of Mice and Men*, John Steinbeck

Skills: Students will consider and reread a previously read text for the purpose of deepening their understanding of self and world. Students will select and keep evidence-based, analysis-driven annotations, giving major consideration to the literary and social phenomena in which the novel was written. Students will produce a variety of written and spoken work focusing on both analysis and self-reflection.

Unit Two Focus: The Impact of Social and Historical Phenomena on Literature

Texts: *1984*, Orwell

Skills: Students will engage in the reading of a fictional novel, and will formally apply annotations and a critical literary lense to that reading. Students will engage in writing and/or presentations in which they directly correlate the relationship between a literary lense and theme.

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

MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL POLICIES:

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

Homework: Homework assignments will be accepted late with a 10% reduction. Assignments not handed in within the unit will receive zero credit. Any questions as to when the unit is over should be directed to the teacher(s) in advance.

English IV Syllabus

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.

Products: Major essays and projects will be accepted late with a 10% deduction each day for 5 days. Then the essay/project is a zero. **In order to be considered on time, all essays must be turned in to turnitin.com as well as printed and turned in as a hard copy. Essays in emails and/ or on flash drives will not be accepted unless accommodations have been made and approved in advance. Students will need access to an email account and should keep their turnitin.com information in a safe place as it will be used all year long.**

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:

OFF AND AWAY--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. Please turn off all electronic devices before entering our classroom. The content and our entertaining personalities are entertaining enough. 😊
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. Please wait until you are given permission to pack up your belongings. We dismiss you, not the bell.

English IV Syllabus

6. 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-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: