

Keystone Literature Syllabus

Instructor Scott Meskel

Room 102

Goals: Improve reading, comprehension, analysis, vocabulary, writing, and test taking skills, and focus on weak areas to better prepare students for the retake of the Literature Keystone Exams in December and May. I want everyone to succeed and pass the Keystone Exam. I want everyone to graduate on time.

Major Content: Study Island, *Unlocking the Keystone Exam: Literature* workbook, and other novels, short stories, practice tests, etc. as deemed necessary.

Grading: This is a pass fail class. 100-60 is passing 59 and lower is failing. Passing this class is required for graduation. I will grade you as I would for a normal class. Don't ride the line of pass/fail and put your success at risk. I won't be cutting anyone any breaks at the end of nine weeks or at the end of the year. You earn your grade; I don't give you a grade.

Student Materials: Every day you should bring the following: 1. Pencil/pen 2. Notebook and folder/binder with paper and folder 3. Independent reading novel (practice makes perfect!) 4. Any novel or text that we are working on 5. Belief that you can succeed.

Late or Missing work: It is your responsibility to get and complete any make-up work. I cannot give you a grade for assignments that I do not have. Any assignments that are not completed for any reason will be given a zero.

Help: After school tutoring is available in the library. This is also an effective way to force yourself to do homework if you struggle with self-discipline or your home environment is not conducive to homework.

Citizenship: Students get 100 citizenship points per nine weeks. It can and will affect your final grade. If you fail a pass fail class because of citizenship points, you only have yourself to blame. Students lose 5 citizenship points for any of the following: Tardy, unprepared, disruptive/talking out of turn, over use of hall passes, cell phone (plus confiscation and referral), profanity, sleeping/head down, not working/refusal to work on assigned tasks, food or drinks in classroom, or failure to comply with directive/insubordination.

My Expectations: I expect you to be **RESPONSIBLE** and come prepared to read, write, think critically, communicate with others, and learn. I expect you to try. I expect you to show effort. I expect you to participate. I expect you to leave your excuses at the door. I expect appropriate school behavior. I expect you to show me, my classroom and the other students in the room **RESPECT**.

Course Website: To view the course website for lesson plans, project due dates, announcements, etc. go to:

<http://www.reynolds.k12.pa.us/>

Click on Junior Senior High School (under slide show)

Click on Teacher websites (left column near the bottom)

Click website under Scott Meskel

Click Keystone Literature in Right column (note: lesson plans and due dates are subject to change due to unforeseen scheduling changes, pacing issues, and sudden attacks of instructional genius.)

Contact Info

Mr. Scott Meskel

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724-646-5770 Ext. 7102

Please sign and return the following to show that you and your guardian have read the syllabus. This is your first graded assignment for this course. **THIS MUST BE RETURNED BY FRIDAY, SEPTMBER 1 TO RECEIVE FULL CREDIT!**

Guardian Signature

Student Signature

Guardian Email: _____

(This is the easiest and quickest way for many teachers to contact and respond to your questions or concerns.)