

English (ELA) Syllabus

Information applies to 10, 11R & 11H

Curriculum varies by grade

2019-2020

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WELCOME TO MY CLASS!

This syllabus will act as a guide to the material we will cover in class this year, as well as other important information you need to know. Please familiarize yourself with it and keep it in your ELA folder.

COURSE OVERVIEW – There will be multiple opportunities for you to read various forms of literary fiction and many fine examples of non-fiction, and to write extensively. We will utilize the steps of Bloom’s Taxonomy in order to think critically about what we are reading. Not only will we discuss and write about the “what, who, why, when, and where” questions, but will engage in applying, analyzing, creating and evaluating ideas in our discussions and writings. We will also engage in written argumentation – trying to persuade the reader to agree with our point of view on a topic, as well as writing informative texts which explain ideas to the reader. Vocabulary, grammar and spelling will also be studied.

MATERIALS/TEXTBOOKS – A class set of textbooks will be kept in class, in addition to two student workbooks which can and will be written in and will belong to each student. The text is entitled *Collections* for each grade level, and the workbooks are the Close Reader and the Performance Assessment. You may be asked to purchase one paperback novel in the future.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS – In addition to covering the state-mandated curriculum, we will also have supplemental reading and writing on a weekly basis.

A short “Do Now” will be posted on the board at the beginning of each class, usually asking for your interpretation of a famous or education-related quote. These sheets will be completed and kept in class for a cumulative, summative

grade. Likewise, there will be a weekly “Library” session each Friday in class. You will choose from my extensive classroom library of fiction and non-fiction in a range of levels from “very easy” to “very challenging,” and everything in-between. You will also be required to fill in a detailed Reading Log template after each reading session which will also be kept in class for a cumulative summative grade.

GRADING – Formative grades count for 40% and Summative grades count for 60% of your final grades. **Late assignments will be handled on a case by case basis, as some students will have a legitimate excuse for handing in late work and others will not.**

TARDY POLICY – New Principal, new policies! This year a strict Tardy/Late policy will be in effect! There will be “sweeps” of all students left out in the hallways after the late bell has rung and class has started. You will receive a detailed paper explaining the full policy.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY – ALL CELLPHONES, IPODS, IPADS, LAPTOPS OR ELECTRONIC NOTEBOOKS, MUST BE SHUT OFF AND PUT AWAY BEFORE CLASS STARTS. THE SAME APPLIES TO HEADPHONES AND EARBUDS. The exception will be when or if the teacher directs you to use an electronic device as part of a work assignment.

CLASSROOM RULES, PROCEDURES & EXPECTATIONS – A separate hand-out will be distributed regarding the explanation and details of these policies.

I encourage and welcome you or your parents/guardians to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have regarding my class. You may speak to me directly in class, or better yet, during offices hours any day except Wednesday in room 6-217 from 12:24 to 12:54. My email address is also at the top of this letter

