English III -- Course Outline

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**Course Description**

Junior English is the study of American Literature. We will read works that celebrate the diverse peoples of the United States from our early Colonial years through to the Twentieth century. We will discover documents and essays that define America’s foundational beliefs. There will also be a great focus on non-fiction essays and articles, learning to read and write analytically, with trained critical eye. As you approach your Senior year, we will be busy preparing you for the world beyond high schoolit is going to be a fun and productive year. Welcome!

**Supplies Needed**

Please bring these items to class with you every day:

Pens and Pencils

Highlighters (Three Colors)

Paper, college-ruled preferred

3-Ring Notebook, with Dividers:

 Vocabulary

 Bell Work

 Class Notes and Handouts

 Returned Work (can be in a folder/pockets)

\* A Notebook grade will be taken every 2-3 weeks. Make sure that you keep it organized and complete. This is the way that I grade class notes, so make sure you get the notes when you are absent.

**Grading Policy**

We now have a school-wide grading policy. All assignments will be graded out of 100 points, but they are weighted by percentage of your grade.

Assessments (Papers, Tests, Projects) = 50%

Classwork (incl. smaller Quizzes) = 40%

Homework (incl. Poetry Responses) = 10%

**Late Work** – We now have a school-wide Late-Work policy. We believe that the penalty for not doing your work should be DOING THE WORK. Therefore:

 1st day\* late = 10% off

 2nd day\* late = Parents will be called.

 3rd day\* late = You will be given after school Academic Intervention where you will be required to complete the work. If you still do not complete the assignment, then you will be given ISS until the work is complete!

\* Day refers to the next class period. Items turned in between classes are still considered late.

**Absent Work** – I expect you to attend school regularly; however, illness happens to us all. When you are absent, you can check my website or the make-up work folder for handouts and activities missed. Smaller assignments are due the following day, larger assignments will be due ON the due date.

**Responsible Planned Absences** - If you know ahead of time that you will be absent, for a family trip or field trip for example, I expect you to check with me ahead of time about what you will miss. If you will be absent on a day when a major assignment/project is due, there are two ways that you can turn it in on time:

 1- Turn it in Early 2 -Email it to me

 \* Without an excused sick note or a letter from a parent explaining your absence, major assignments WILL be counted late for an unexcused absence!

**Cheating** – Students are expected to do their own work. If you turn in work that is not your own – including copying someone else’s work or copying work from the internet – you will NOT receive credit for it. Cheating will be treated as a discipline issue – parents and administration will be notified if it happens more than once. (Class NOTES are not considered independent work; if we took notes in class while you were absent, then I do expect you to copy those from a friend. Just make sure you don’t get the two confused. ;)

**Class Routines**

**Handout Table** – Any materials that you will need for the day will be on the SECOND shelf of the book case as you enter. Please get into the habit of looking for them before class starts.

**Turn-In Boxes** – Assignments that are due at the start of class will be collected and placed in the appropriate turn-in boxes at the beginning of class. **To turn in late work**, you need to see me so that I can check you off the list due to our new late work policy (see below). If you have been absent and need to turn in work, see me with it so that I can make sure it is not counted late.

**Conversation Journals** – We will be keeping conversation journals this year to dig deeper into literature and to share ideas with classmates. They will be kept on the back bookshelf and labeled with numbers (not names), as you will share them with the other classes. I will put a sign on the table for the days that you need these. More information will be given about this assignment later.

**Technology Notes**

**Remind.com** - Please send a text to **(804) 578-6467** and use the code **@amlit2016** to sign up for class reminders.

**Quizlet** – Vocabulary words will be updated on Quizlet every two weeks. You get **extra credit** for creating an account, joining my class, and playing review games! There is a link on my webpage to get you started.

**SHS WiFi -** The school now has FREE WiFi!! Connect to “RCS-Secure” and use your school computer log-in information.

 **Class Rules**

1. **Be On Time and Ready to Learn.**
	* Bring all your materials, including the textbook.
	* Go to locker and bathroom before class.
2. **Contribute Respectfully in Class.**
	* Raise your hand or wait your turn to talk.
	* Listen attentively.
	* Think critically, ask questions, stay on topic.
3. **Be Responsible for Doing Your Work.**
	* Check what you have missed when you are out.
	* Do the homework on time and study for tests.
	* Be a productive team member.
	* Do not copy work from others or let them copy you.

**Cell Phones**

We will be using cell phones in class for school-related purposes. The BYOD poster at the front of the room will indicate whether or not you should be on your phones. If the poster is on RED (Phones Off) and you are caught on your phone, the consequences below will be followed.

**Consequences**

 If you choose to disrespect the classroom rules:

 1st Offense – Warning or Conference with the Teacher

 2nd Offense – In-Classroom Consequence – relocation, removal of item (i.e. phone), behavior contract, apology letter

 3rd Offense – Parent Phone Call

 4th Offense – Sent to the Office

 \* Especially egregious offenses will be sent directly to the office. This includes profanity toward any teacher or classmate.

**Bathroom Policy**

You can ask permission to use the bathroom under the following conditions:

* Never during the first 10 minutes or last 10 minutes of class.
* Only one student can be out of the room at a time.
* You must be back in 5 minutes or less.
* Do not ask when I am giving instructions or notes. Independent activity time is more well-suited for you to step out. Be respectful of my class time.
* I reserve the right to say no, and your privileges can be removed if you abuse them (i.e. ask every day, wander the halls, disturb other classes)

**Food Policy**

I do allow snacks and drinks, but you are responsible for your trash and cleaning up any messes that may occur. The privilege will be revoked if messes are not cleaned up. Snacks should be small in quantity and able to be eaten with your hands; if you have to use a spoon or fork, it is not a snack and you should eat it in the cafeteria.

The following food items are NOT allowed in class:

* Sunflower seeds (that you have to shell)
* Ice Cream – both the popsicle and spoon varieties
* Dips (wet food) – like ranch dip, peanut butter, tuna cans, yogurt