ENGLISH I COURSE OUTLINE: Introduction to Literary Analysis

Mr. Garbe Room 210

2017-2018

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| GENERAL DESCRIPTION |

World English Literature I is structured to prepare 9th grade students for advanced English courses by creating effective reading habits and developing critical thinking skills. Throughout this course, students will explore various literary genres and will be expected to read a free reading book each quarter, in addition to books assigned in class.  Essays and creative writing will be a priority for every unit. For each unit, there will be a minimum of one large and several small writing projects, such as journal entries or short reflections.  The writing projects will emphasize analysis of the literature.  Vocabulary development through contextual words will be a focus of the class.  Class discussion/seminars will be used nearly every day to draw out ideas and encourage student interaction.

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| COURSE OBJECTIVES  |

Students engage in close reading of selected literary works which will further develop their comprehension, communication, and critical thinking skills.

Students will fine tune research skills and synthesize material into cohesive research assignments.

Students will hone their public speaking and presentation skills.

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| COURSE TOPICS AND METHODOLOGY |

Students will study the following units:

* Fiction (through novels and short stories)
* Nonfiction
* Drama
* Poetry
* Public Speaking
* Writing and Research
* Media/Film Analysis

Student participation is required each class, and that can only be achieved through completion of reading homework.  Through the expression of each individual’s point of view, all will experience enriched learning.  Socratic seminars, lectures, and group discussions will be used.

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| LITERATURE |

We will read various literary works this year. Some titles include:

*Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck

*The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros

*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

*Night* by Elie Wiesel

*The Odyssey* by Homer

*Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare

Other pieces of literature suiting the specific needs and interests of the class will also be explored.

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| GRADING CRITERIA |

Major Essays 25% Projects and Tests 25%

Minor Writing Assignments 20% Quizzes and Homework 15%

Participation and Classwork 15%

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| COURSE MATERIALS |

You will need these supplies:

· Two manila folders for portfolio and working file (will remain in class)

· Blue or black pens.

· A “free reading” book (one per semester)

· A notebook or binder to keep notes and drafts.

· A red or green pen for self and peer editing.

· A notebook / journal (this can also be kept in class).

· A reusable water bottle if you intend to drink water during class

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| MAKE-UP WORK/HOMEWORK/PROJECT POLICY |

Homework is due at the beginning of class. The EA late work policy for major assignments:

-15% deduction 1 day

-25% deduction 2 day

-35% deduction 3 day

- Assignment receives a 0% after that.

- Homework assignments are due at the start of class the next day. Late homework is not accepted and will be marked as a 0%.

It is your responsibility to find out what you will miss (planned absence) or what you have missed (illness or emergency). You will be given time to make up your work for excused absences. You are responsible for the work missed in class. PortalPlus is a good resource, but do check with me during my office hours to double check.  If you are absent the day before a test you are still required to take the test when you return to school (unless excused by the US office).

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| PlusPortal |

Please make sure you check PlusPortal frequently.  Announcements, test dates and other information will be posted on this site.   This is a great resource to use during an absence.  Weekly lesson plans will be updated there along with other links to sites.

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| ADDITIONAL RESOURCES |

There is a [class website](http://garbe.weebly.com/) for students and parents to get additional support materials.

My office hours are after school, from 3:00-3:30 and during SSH; other times can be scheduled as necessary.  If you are unable to attend a scheduled meeting, please make sure you let me know.

There is an after school Writing Lab available as well.  Students who do not make adequate progress may be required to visit the Writing Lab.

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| CLASSROOM RULES AND COURSE EXPECTATIONS |

Discipline yourself so others do not have to do it for you.

You are expected to respect yourself, others and the environment both in and out of class.

Be on time

Do no harm

Be curious and participate

“Education is not a preparation for life; it is life itself.” - John Dewey

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| CONTACT INFO: garbe.kurt@amschool.edu.sv  |

Or you may call the US Office and set up an appointment with Bea Cortez or Edna Garcia at a mutually convenient time (2528-8275)

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| ENGLISH DEPARTMENT AGREEMENTS |

1. Cellphones, tablets, laptops and all other electronic devices are not permitted for use during a test day. Unless specified by your teacher, the only items you will need during a test are a pen and white-out. No school boxes, water bottles, or other items should be on your desk.

2. Students are not allowed to leave the classroom during a testing period (this includes trips to the bathroom, office or nurse…the only exceptions will be via the US Office directly with the teacher).

3. All major essays will be written in class. Essays written outside of class will not be collected. Major essays must be submitted via turninin.com.

4. See the student handbook for EA’s late work and homework policy.

5. Cell phones will be collected at the beginning of each class period. Electronic devices will be used frequently in class for educational purposes, and it will be noted on the lesson plan.