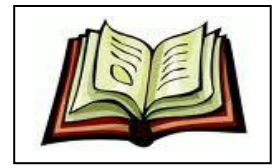




English 9 Honors - Course Syllabus
Mrs. Gardner
2010-2011



Required Text: *Prentice Hall Literature Language and Literacy*

Supplemental Materials: *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck
Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens

Course Objectives: Students will be exposed to a variety of literary genre as they read a wide assortment of short stories, poems, plays, novels, and an epic. Emphasis will be placed on analytical skills and evaluation techniques. Novel study will further advance interpretive skills. Students will also review and practice grammar usage while enhancing their writing skills through journals, formal paragraphs, essays, and a research project. Throughout the course, students will enhance their vocabulary knowledge.

Illinois Learning Standards Addressed in Course:

- STATE GOAL 1: Read with understanding and fluency.
- STATE GOAL 2: Read and understand literature representative of various societies, eras and ideas.
- STATE GOAL 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.
- STATE GOAL 4: Listen and speak effectively in a variety of situations.
- STATE GOAL 5: Use the language arts to acquire, assess and communicate information.

Semester One:

Summer Reading Unit – 2 Weeks

Journal assignments
 Group discussions
 Thematic essay

Short Story Unit – 3 Weeks

In class written response
 Journal writing
 Short story elements in writing
 Unit test

Poetry Unit – 3 Weeks

Poem analysis
 Multi-paragraph response
 Poetic devices test

Shakespeare Unit – 7 Weeks

Julius Caesar
 Shakespearean language
 Various quizzes
 Argumentative essay

Novel Study – 3 Weeks

Of Mice and Men
 Study guide
 Dialectical journals
 Literary analysis essay

Parts of Speech and Vocabulary

Throughout the semester
 Various quizzes in each unit

Semester Two:

Novel Study #1 – 5 Weeks

To Kill a Mockingbird
 Study Guide
 Discussion questions
 Character motivation essay

Research Unit – 4 Weeks

Author biography
 The research process
 Formal outline / Works Cited
 Presentation

Novel Study #2 – 6 Weeks

A Tale of Two Cities
 Study Guide
 Unit test

Mythology Unit – 3 Weeks

The Odyssey
 Myth creation and presentation
 Gods / goddesses quiz
 Unit test

Complex Sentences and Vocabulary

Throughout the semester
 Various quizzes in each unit

D.E.A.R

During both semesters you will participate in what is known as D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read) Every Friday, you will be expected to bring in a novel of your choice to read for a certain period of time. During second semester, you will be expected to independently read *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet* as one of your D.E.A.R. texts.

Components Assessed: Homework completion, quizzes, tests, essays, projects, reading completion and interpretation, depth of thought, literary analysis, and research project.

Required Materials:

Student handbook
3-ring binder for English class ONLY
Set of five binder divider tabs
One two-pocket folder for research unit
One notebook (any size)
Loose-leaf paper
Pens – blue or black ink for assignments
Highlighters

Grading:

Each assignment will have a point value. Rather than all points simply accumulating throughout the semester, assignments will be weighed in the following manner:

Homework: 10%	Products: 30%
Quizzes: 20%	Final Exams: 15%
Assessments: 25%	

Scale: 90-100 A	80-89 B	70-79 C	60-69 D	<59 F
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Guidelines:

1. You must be in your seat when the bell rings to be considered on-time.
2. Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period. Do not ask me to use my computer to print out your assignment.
3. If a problem occurs and you do not have your assignment, contact me before you walk in the door.

Tips for Succeeding:

1. Use your agenda book to write down daily assignments.
2. Take notes!
3. Turn assignments in on the due date.
4. Bring binder and required supplies to class each day.
5. Complete all reading assignments.
6. Carefully read ALL directions.
7. Do not hesitate to ask questions!
8. Daily attendance is extremely important.

Contact Information:

E-mail: sgardner@psd202.org
School Voice Mail: (815) 577-5886

Noteworthy comments:

- This class will be fun if you allow it to be! 😊
- You are the determiner of your grade. I do not assign grades; you earn them!