



“Books, I found, had the power to make time stand still, retreat or fly into the future” (Jim Bishop).

Course Description: This is a year-long required course that is intended to advance students’ organizational, reading, writing, speaking, listening, and critical thinking skills. Students’ writing includes journal (response and interpretive), essay (expository, persuasive, narrative), and historical research. The literature features nonfiction, including autobiographical and biographical readings. Emphasis will be placed on meeting state learning standards in English and on improving students’ writing, speaking, and listening skills. This course enables students to interact with their fellow students and to express themselves creatively, as well as factually in both written and oral communication. Particular emphasis will be placed on preparing students to take the PSAE reading and writing tests.

Course Unit Overview:

Semester One

Narrative
House on Mango Street
Night
Taming of the Shrew

Semester Two

A Doll’s House
The Secret Life of Bees
Independent Novel

Yearly Skills/Projects:

Grammar Mondays, Reading Tuesdays, Writing Wednesdays, Vocabulary Thursdays, D.E.A.R. Fridays

Daily Supplies:

Writing utensils (pens/highlighters)
1 or 1 ½ inch binder w/ 5 tabs
Loose-leaf paper
Required text
Single-subject notebook
Brain

Grading Scale/Policy

Grading is based on a weighted system:
Homework: 10%
Quizzes: 20%
Assessments: 25%
Products: 30%
Final Exams: 15%

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

Classroom Rules:

1. Students will remain in their assigned seats unless otherwise instructed.
2. There will be no mp3 players or cell phones in the classroom.
3. Students will show respect to one another, the instructor, and the room.
4. Students will be responsible for acquiring and making up missed work in a timely fashion.
5. Purses and backpacks must remain on the floor at all times during class.

Classroom Policies: All PSHS English department policies and District 202 student handbook policies apply (late work, tardies, classroom disruptions, etc.)

Computer Usage: All students and parents must sign the District 202 computer usage policy before access to school computers/technology can be made available. Any violation of the policy can result in the termination of school computer/technology access and usage. **IMPORTANT –** Please also read and sign the PSHS English Standard policies, as well as the District 202 Academic Honesty policy.

Student Syllabus Agreement:

I have read and understand the above policies of this class.

Student Name (Print)

Student Signature

Parent/ Guardian Name (Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature