



Academy for Excellence in Leadership

Mrs. C. Blissett, Principal

Mr. E. Newville, A.P.

Ms. Popo, A.P.

English 11 Course Syllabus

Ms. Roth

Ms. Doble

Ms. Dixon

Course Description: All curricula in English 11 will focus on bringing students up to and beyond the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for grades 11 and 12 in reading, writing, listening and speaking, and language. Students will learn various methods of argumentation and rhetoric with an emphasis on using text-based evidence and meaningful commentary to defend a claim. Student writing and speaking (debate) will be integrated with their course readings by American writers with an emphasis on multicultural 20th century literature. Students will learn literary devices and forms as a part of analyzing writing and literature. Students will prepare for the ELA New York State Regents exam. Students will explore a variety of perspectives, through both fiction and nonfiction. Embedded into the curriculum will be an examination of various non-print sources; students will make connections between primary sources and other texts.

Course Objective: As a result of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the ability to:

- Challenge students with complex, rich literary and informational texts that stimulate deeper thought about the human condition
- Learn various forms of rhetoric and argument that will be the basis of writing and debate
- Explore cultures, themes, and narrative voices in the body of American literature in order to synthesize ideas into a final culminating project at the end of the school year
- Engage in research projects of varying lengths and incorporate new ideas and knowledge into original projects
- Promote an environment of academic integrity and pride in workmanship
- Engage in meaningful independent reading and analysis of literature

Academic Requirements for Passing the Course:

* **Research paper, Projects, Oral presentation, and/or Debates must be done once per semester. This is a Non-Negotiable.**

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| 1. Classwork/Participation (<i>Informal Assessments, Do Nows, Exit Slips, etc.</i>) | 30% |
| 2. Mastery Work (<i>Essays, Papers, HW, etc.</i>)..... | 30% |
| 3. Presentations/Projects (<i>Group Presentations, etc.</i>) | 20% |
| 4. Exams/Quizzes..... | 20% |

- A) **Attendance/Lateness:** Students are required to come to class every school day. Only absences due to illness or extenuating circumstances will be excused, but **ONLY** if accompanied with a **doctor or parent’s note**. Cutting class or excessive lateness will result serious consequences. **If a student is absent or late, he/she is expected to do work that was missed. Students understand that missing class work through lateness and/or absence will have a negative impact upon his/her class work grade. Each Student is responsible for asking about work missed and completing it.**
- A) **Classwork:** Students are required to be prepared for class. This includes having a notebook or a loose-leaf binder, a folder to organize handouts, a textbook, and a blue or black pen. Positive, active participation in class is expected. Students must take notes in class. Students understand that poor classwork will have a negative impact upon his/her classwork grade that can result in a failing grade.
- B) **Homework:** Students understand that homework will be assigned and that **he/she is expected to do the homework**. If a student is absent from class, it is his/her responsibility to get the work he/she missed. Students understand that poor or no homework will have a negative impact upon his/her classwork grade that can result in a failing grade. **(Copying homework straight from a classmate will result in an F for both parties involved)**

Rewards & Consequences:

Our learning community is like a family. We must respect our rights and responsibilities in order to have a productive and challenging year. If you have a problem with an assignment or with class, PLEASE come speak to me about it. *If you **CHOOSE** to ignore your responsibilities to this class, and/or to violate the rights and responsibilities of our community there will be consequences.* We will try to be fair and consistent, but consider one warning enough for minor violations. Serious violations of others’ rights will result in serious consequences and immediate action with NO warnings.

Rewards: Rewards are given in this class for positive behavior and achievement. The actual rewards may vary but include: a good note/call home, movies, games, a special breakfast or lunch, and most importantly good grades and a true sense of accomplishment/growth.

Consequences: See AEL School Student Manual & NYC Discipline Codes for guidelines; however, calls home, mediation circles, and parent/teacher/student conferences, are all part of the menu of consequences.

Writing Guidelines: All mastery work submitted for a grade must be typed. Typed work should be double-spaced using 12-point Times New Roman.

Routines: Routines are a critical part of our class. There are many of them, and students need to be in class to learn them. All students, upon entering the classroom, are required to immediately sit down, take out their notebook and pens, and begin the work at hand (The “do-now”, copying the Aim, etc).

Bathroom policy: There are NO bathroom passes given during the **first ten** or **last ten minutes** of class for ANY reason whatsoever. Students must sign the classroom log before leaving, indicating your name, the date and time, and destination.

Materials: You will need: a 3-ring binder, a pocket folder, pencil, black/blue pen, and loose leaf paper. In your binder you will need a section dedicated to English. You will need to keep a copy of this classroom contract and your beginning of the year goals in your English section. I **WILL** check your binder randomly, for a grade at times, and all of your papers must be neat and in order.

Policy of standards in personal work:

- If you copy from your classmates when you are given any written assignment, the score will be “0” for both of you, the one providing the material and the one doing the copying.
- If you copy from text books, internet, encyclopedia, a magazine, or any other source that is not your own, and you pass off this work as your own instead of properly citing it, you will have committed a crime called ‘plagiarism’, which is stealing other people’s writing. You will receive a “0”, a call goes home, and the principal and all teachers will be informed so they can be careful about grading your work. **DO NOT PLAGIARIZE.**
- If there are doubts as to the validity of your work I will do the following: Test you in the spot on the material you have giving me. (If you did it at home you will remember at school)
- If you fail to pass the test, you will either re-do the work in your own words, or take the “0”. But your parents will be informed.

Behavior Requirements for Passing this Class

1. One must be respectful to classmates, teacher(s), and their belongings.
2. Absolutely no gum chewing in class.
3. Raise hand to answer questions. Do not shout it out or over your peers.
4. If a student is caught cheating on an essay/paper, test, quiz, homework, or any kind of class work, no credit will be giving to the student for his/her work.
5. Only one individual can leave the room, to use the restroom, at a time, with permission.
6. All cell phones must be put away throughout the day, including smart watches and air pods.
7. Students must engage with their google classroom assignments during their remote days.
8. Students must abide all social distancing guidelines (6 ft. apart, keep masks on at all times, not physical contact, etc.)
9. No off-task technology use (YouTube, Spotify, Facebook, Instagram, etc.)
10. All handouts must be kept by all students (no work will be collected by hand, it will be submitted through Google classroom).

We are always available if you need additional help with assignments.

- *Office hours will vary between teachers, and times will be provided to you.*
- *You may email us for clarification on assignments, missed work, etc. We will generally reply within a few hours but please allow up to 24 hours for a response.*

o *Email:*

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Unit	Study	Time Length (approximately)
Basic assessment	We will assess your Reading, writing and listening skills using the ELA Regents exam	One week
Elements of literature	Character analysis – Using “Stanley RealBozo and the Student’s own life, students will create STEAL charts, including a short bio for both the created character and for themselves.	One week
Elements of Literature part two	Character and conflict, setting – using a short story, we will continue character analysis, learn about conflict, learn about the relationship of setting, and write a text analysis	4 weeks, text: “Thank you, Ma’am” by Langston Hughes
“Can We Talk” Flash Debate process	This Unit is from the DOE, we will read the text “Two Words” by Isabel Allende. Students will annotate their text for evidence as to who is the real victim, teams will prepare to have a flash debate, using text evidence collected. After the flash debate, you will write your opinion during a quick write, which you will develop into an argumentative essay.	4 -5 weeks
Mapping Inequality – tracking systemic racism	This unit uses the text “A Raisin in the Sun” with the online interactive Mapping Inequality Map, as well as poems by Langston Hughes, and data from the Federal Housing dept. to Look at the Younger Family in the context of Redlining and the denial of generational wealth through housing.	4 -6 weeks