English III Syllabus **2012/2013**
Ms. Goodwin **Room 114**
Email: Elizabeth.Goodwin@swcs.us

Welcome to our English III class! I am excited to be your English teacher this year. This syllabus is designed to give you some ideas about what you can expect from this school year. You will be quizzed on the syllabus.

What to bring to class:

- Something to write with. Please come to class with at least a pencil every day.
- Your book (in class novel or independent reading)
- Notebook paper
- A piece of candy for me (KIDDING!)

Class Policies/Procedures

- Only materials for English class may be on your desk. All others should be under your desk or put away.
- Bring your supplies every day! (book, agenda book, writing utensil, paper, assignments, etc.)
- Be IN YOUR SEAT when the bell rings. If you are not in your seat, you will be counted tardy.
- Inappropriate behavior that breaks our classroom's social contract and/or disrupts and distracts the learning environment (our classroom) will not be tolerated. Everyone makes mistakes or has an "off" day; therefore you will get one warning from me. On the second warning, you will sign our accountability book. If you sign the book twice in one week, you will serve a lunch detention with me. No exceptions.
- In addition to our classroom social contract, we will honor Central Crossing's commitment to *RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY*, and *RECOGNITION* by following these school-wide standards for behavior:
    - **Enter the classroom before the bell rings or be marked tardy.**
    - **Keep electronic devices off and out of sight.**
    - **Obtain permission to use a hall pass, sign out, and carry the hall pass while out of the room.**
    - **Arrive to each class prepared with required materials.**
    - **Treat people and property with respect, and always use respectful language.**

Make Up Homework/Test Policy

- All make up work and tests must be completed within the same time period of the absence (2 days absent=2 days to turn in the work).
- All of our assignments will be recorded on Infinite Campus and on the course website. You can pick up missing handouts from the bin in the back of the room at the Assignment Center.
- You will be responsible for getting your own make-up work from the hanging pockets in the Assignment Center at the back of the classroom.
- Absences must be considered excused (medical or parental) in order to be eligible for full credit.
- You will need to make arrangements with me in order to make up a test or quiz.
- If you are absent for more than three days, I recommend requesting homework from me by phone or email.
- **Any late assignment will receive a 10% deduction after it is one day late. Any assignments turned in later than one day will be docked a letter grade.**
- **All late assignments must be turned in within one week of the due date to receive any credit.**

Grading Policy

- The total points will vary each nine weeks. Please see the attached document for information regarding the district-wide grading system.

Tardy Policy

- You will be marked tardy if you are not IN YOUR SEAT when the bell rings.
- You have only two tardy warnings; afterwards, you will receive a detention from the office. You need to bring a pass if you are coming late from another class or the office; otherwise, it will be counted as a tardy.

Restroom Passes

- A restroom pass is located in your agenda book. You may use that restroom pass only in case of an emergency. I will allow only two bathroom breaks per week per person. No passes will be issued without an agenda or a medical pass. You must also sign out of the classroom and sign back in.

Cheating/Plagiarism

- Cheating is absolutely not tolerated. This includes homework, internet sites, and test/quizzes. Your parents will be notified in the event that cheating or plagiarism has occurred. Cheating is NEVER acceptable. If you don't know your stuff on a test and you didn't do the homework, accept the consequences for your actions and do better next time! Never copy. Never cheat. No exceptions.

What to expect this year:

SSR/Silent independent reading

- We will be reading independently every week in class.
- You can choose to read whatever you like for the first nine weeks. After that, you must choose a novel.
- At the end of the reading period you will be asked to write a response to your reading (prompts will be provided).
- We will complete at least two large projects based on your independent novel. This means that I expect you to try to finish at least two books in our class on your own this year.

Journals

- We will have two to three journal entries that you will complete at the start of class each week
- Journals are graded based your effort. As long as your response is on-topic and complete you will receive full credit!

Bell Assignments/Exit tickets

- You will have an activity to begin working on when you enter the classroom every day.
- Periodically, I will assess understanding by giving you exit ticket quizzes.

Portfolios

- You will each keep a portfolio of your major assignments and journal entries for the year. Portfolios help you to see how much you've grown and learned over the course of the year.

Here is a basic outline of items that will be covered during our time together this year. Some items may be subject to change.

- **Short stories –** A selection of stories by various authors
- **Poetry –** A selection of various forms of poetry and a study of various poets
- **Novels –**
    - The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
    - Big Mouth & Ugly Girl by Joyce Carol Oates
    - The Lone Ranger & Tonto Fistfight in Heaven by Sherman Alexie
- **Writing –** Descriptive writing, literary analysis, persuasive composition, creative writing, personal narrative, and expository writing
- **Reading Strategies –** Summarizing, inferences, predictions, compare/contrast, and drawing conclusions
- **Nonfiction texts –** Technical writing, newspapers, journals, magazines, and biographies
- **Oral communication –** Five minute oral presentation
- **Research –** Basic research paper with a works cited page

Student Name: _____ Class Period: _____

I have read and understood Ms. Goodwin's syllabus and classroom expectations. I have also reviewed this information with my parents/guardians.

Student signature Date

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Parent/Guardian email address

Parent daytime phone number(s) where I may contact you