



ENGLISH 3,4 (HONORS) SYLLABUS

Course: English 3,4 (Honors)
Subject Teacher: Jeff Meyer

Course Number: 1380, 1381
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DESCRIPTION OF SEMESTER COURSE

This is a full year course focusing on supporting students' development of skills and strategies for independent reading and writing of grade-level texts. The goal of instruction is to facilitate students' becoming strategic, critical readers and writers, listeners and speakers, who communicate effectively in various forms for a variety of purposes and audiences. This course includes units covering diverse genres but will focus on major literary words. Activities in each unit integrate reading, writing, oral communication, and language study, including Standard Academic English grammar, word analysis and usage, spelling, and punctuation. Every unit of study includes editing/revision and technology is embedded throughout the assignments.

In order to receive honors credit, students must pass the district's end-of-course examination.

OBJECTIVES AND METHODS OF STUDY

Each month, students in this course must complete the following work:

- Read literary selections as identified on Canvas and be prepared to discuss texts during weekly study group sessions to develop comprehension and analysis skills.
- Demonstrate independent reading analysis with monthly literary responses.
- Develop writing craft through both fluency practice (timed writing responses) and through focused skill lessons (Standard Academic English) tasks.
- Expand lexical capacity through word analysis practice.
- Relate historical and cultural context to the import and interpretation of text reflected in key stylistic shifts in literature.

RESOURCES

- Assorted novels
- McDougal Littell, *Grammar for Writing* (Blue)
- Class Canvas Page
- Meyer website linked to Mt Everest Academy
- Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts:
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/finaelaccsstandards.pdf>
- Mt. Everest Academy multimedia laboratory

MONTHLY CONCEPT AND TECHNOLOGY FOCI

Month	Major Text(s)	Skill focus
Month 1	Salinger, <i>The Catcher in the Rye</i>	symbolism and theme
Month 2	Hurston, <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i>	style and figurative language
Month 3	Hurston, <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i>	Literary analysis essay
Month 4	Swift, <i>Gulliver's Travels</i>	Satire, irony, allegory
Month 5	Review	Literary analysis essay
Month 6	Steinbeck, <i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>	symbolism, allusion, setting
Month 7	Steinbeck, <i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>	Literary Analysis: Theme and style
Month 8	Shelley, <i>Frankenstein</i>	Literary Analysis: Theme and style
Month 9	Argumentative Essays	Analyzing and creating rhetoric
Month 10	Review	Review for end of course exam

EVALUATION CRITERIA AND METHODS

Each set of monthly assignments includes point values. Credit for all assignments is based on its quality and submission of work by due dates. Taking a test at a time other than the class period may incur a 5% grade penalty unless prior authorization was given. While attendance credit for each month and is based on submission of monthly work by due dates, academic grades are based on the **quality** of work submitted on time, according to directions, and demonstrating proficiency. Assignments turned in late, but within one work month are subject to a 20%-point reduction from what is otherwise earned. Work that is more than one work month late is not accepted at all (e.g., work from Month 3 may be turned in during Month 4 for a 20%-point reduction and work from Month 3 is no longer accepted once Month 5 begins).

In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and **work that is presented as original must be, in fact, original**. Copying work created by an AI-content generator (such as ChatGPT) and turning it in without proper attribution or authorization is a form of



academic dishonesty and will not receive credit. If you are unsure about whether something may be plagiarism or academic dishonesty, please contact Mr. Meyer to discuss the issue.

In keeping with the San Diego City Schools procedure #4705, the following grades are assigned:

"A"	= consistently superior work quality
"B"	= above average work quality
"C"	= satisfactory or average for grade level work quality
"D"	= below average quality or quantity of work
"F"	= failure, credit not granted
"I"	= incomplete course work. Six weeks allowed for make-up.
"NC"	= No Credit

SCHOOLWIDE LEARNER OUTCOMES

- Communicate effectively through reading, writing, listening and speaking.
- Think and solve problems independently and critically.
- Demonstrate the confidence, resilience, and self-esteem to succeed in life.
- Use resources, including technology, to locate needed information.
- Demonstrate good citizenship and personal integrity.

