

Junior English

Ms. Abena Ntoso: antoso@crstoreyjesuit.org

Course website: bit.ly/ntosoenglish3

Welcome! This English III course is designed to allow you to experience the creativity, imagination, and wonder of exploring the world through *literature* and *creative writing*.

Eleventh grade English introduces students to **rhetorical and literary structure and style**, with the purpose of establishing literacy habits that will help students **think critically** about literature and life and **express themselves clearly**. Students will read and discuss nonfiction, fiction, poetry and plays--with an emphasis on American Literature. As scholars, students formulate and discuss their questions, thoughts, interpretations, and analyses. Students will master the ability to write textually substantiated analyses and interpretations of a portion or whole text and will apply research methods and the creative process to develop and express understanding. Students will also learn to collaborate and support one another as a community of diverse learners and professionals.

Using the writing process to craft their own literary works, students will experiment with language, style and structure, making conscious and informed decisions about word choice, imagery, details, figurative language, and other literary and rhetorical devices in order to effectively convey their ideas. Students will study the work of other authors in order to improve their own craft and develop an understanding of how authors make choices that enable them to engage readers in asking profound questions and creating more nuanced perspectives and interpretations of our world.

Materials Needed:

- *A curious and creative mind!*
- **Laptop** - *charged and with you in class every day*
- **Notebook** for journal writing
- Folder for handouts & readings
- Pen, pencil & highlighters
- [Page Flags](#) - helpful for use while reading books
- Selected books

Online Tools Needed:

- Google Drive, Google Classroom, Google Docs
- FlipGrid: <https://flipgrid.com/> - *ask for join code*
- NoRedInk: <https://www.noredink.com/login> - *ask for join code*

Texts for this Year:

- *The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore
- *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston
- *Antigone* by Sophocles
- Selected essays, poems, and excerpts (*Poverty, by America; The Things They Carried*; etc.)

Communication: Ask questions. Share your ideas. Voice your concerns. Challenge me.

- Speak with me during class
- Email (this is the best method for requesting recommendation letters) - antoso@crstoreyjesuit.org
- Remind messaging: <https://www.remind.com/> - *use your CRJ Google account to login*
- Complete the [appointment form](#) to schedule an appointment with me. After completing the form, please check your email for a response from me with the day and time we can meet.

Year Overview

We will be following the College Board's AP English Language [Course at a Glance](#) unit structure.

- **Unit 1: Intro to Literary Practice** (22 sessions) - Theme: *Context & Complexity*
- **Unit 2: Understanding Audience** (9 sessions) - Theme: *Education*
- **Unit 3: Line of Reasoning** (16 sessions) - Theme: *Society, Work, Social Class & Poverty*
- **Unit 4: Developing a Thesis** (10 sessions) - Theme: *Relationships, Friendships, Families & Parenting*
- **Unit 5: Structure & Word Choice** (14 sessions) - Theme: *Navigating Differences & Moral Conflict*
- **Unit 6: Voice & Style** (14 sessions) - Theme: *Personal Values*
- **Unit 7: Exploring Multiple Perspectives** (7 sessions) Theme: *Violence and War*
- **Unit 8: Examining Relationships between Ideas** (10 sessions) Theme: *Science, Technology & Health*
- **Unit 9: Possibilities & Perspectives** (10 sessions) Theme: *Our Future*

Grading

Assignments receive grades based on the extent to which they reflect critical thinking, mastery and effort.

Grades are calculated using the following categories and percentages: For more information, please visit the [assessment](#) page of the course website.

Grade Categories	Example grades and work products in this category (This is NOT intended to limit or prescribe assignments, but to be used as a guideline only.)	Weight
<i>Practice Assignments</i> (daily in-class assignments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journal Writing • Annotations • Reflections • Discussions • Sharing & Feedback • Individual Conferences • Creative Writing 	ungraded
Formative Assessments (minimum of 7 formative assessment grades per quarter)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annotations • Reflections • Graded discussions (face-to-face and online) • Personal efficacy (goals, to-do list, emotion check-in) • Reading response assignments & discussion posts • Reading quizzes • Vocabulary Study • Grammar assignments • In-class Group Assignments • Video & Audio Reading Responses • Creative Writing 	10%
Summative Assessments (3-4 summative assessment grades per quarter)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major timed writings • First drafts and Final drafts of process papers • Major projects 	90%

Rules for this course:

1. **Do your best and be yourself.** Put thought and effort into your work. Be authentic. Do all assignments to the best of your ability. Participate in class. Revise your work. You will gain the most from the class by doing the work and setting high standards for yourself.
2. **Turn in your assignments on time.** I do my best to set deadlines that are realistic and accommodating. Deadlines are there because the course is designed for you to make continual progress. In order for me to provide timely feedback and accommodate your needs and wishes in my planning, please submit your work by the due date *even if you are absent*.
3. **Revision & Retesting:** I will not assign a grade to any work that you submit until either: (a) it meets expectations and requirements, and/or (b) the deadline has passed.
4. **No plagiarism.** This includes plagiarizing work from other students and/or from the internet. Don't do it.