

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

English III

Mr. Josh Sertich

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description:

English III includes the study of American literature, and its relationship to American history, examining how prose has evolved and changed over time, and what cultural factors are responsible for those changes. Various forms of American literature will be examined to acquaint the students with different themes and concepts, including novels, plays, short stories, essays, and poems. In response to the literature being studied, students will write a number of literary analysis papers as well as a historical research paper. Students will also focus on persuasive writing in preparation for the PSAE test. Grammar, spelling, and vocabulary will also be included to reinforce all writing skills.

Note: This is a writing intensive course.

Course Objectives:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- analyze, compare, and evaluate various works of literature
- understand that effective authors of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry carefully consider their stylistic choices as they pertain to purpose and audience
- demonstrate serious engagement with the readings through close reading and analytical writing
- express analysis and practice writing skills through academic writing assignments and in-class essays
- apply spelling, proofreading, basic grammatical and editing skills to augment their writing
- improve their vocabulary skills primarily in the context of the literature
- develop and apply the study and research skills necessary for academic success
- develop and apply oral and presentation skills
- develop and apply listening skills
- demonstrate their comprehension of the material through regularly scheduled quizzes and tests

Required Class Materials:

- Literature Book and/or Novel
- Notebook
- Pen or pencil

Text:

- Elements of Literature Fifth Course
- Novels (*Tears of a Tiger* and *The Great Gatsby*)

Course Outline:

- Unit 1: The Colonial through Revolutionary Period
- Unit 2: The Romantic Period
- Unit 3: The American Renaissance and New American Poetry

- Unit 4: Realism and Naturalism
- Unit 5: Modernism
- Unit 6: The Harlem Renaissance
- Unit 7: Postmodernism

Major Assignments:

- Independent Reading Projects (3-October, March, and May)
- Persuasive Essay and Presentation (May)

Grading:

- Grades are calculated based on total points.
- The final exam accounts for 15% of the final grade.
- This is a weighted course.

Class Policies & Procedures:

- Students are responsible for getting their make-up work for an excused absence. They must see me the day they return to school even if they have had someone get their work for them. NO EXCEPTIONS!
- If a student misses only one day of school for an excused absence, they are expected to turn in the homework that was due the day of their absence when they return to school.
- Students who do not see me on the day they return will receive a late grade for their work.
- Please be sure to read the student handbook for all other policies regarding homework, late work, and make-up work.

Instructor Contact:

Classroom: A101

Phone: 694-2321

Email: jsertich@cusd4.org

Conference Availability:

- Before school
- After school
- 9:50-11:15 on "A" Days
- 8:15-9:45 on "B" Days