

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

English II

Mr. Josh Sertich

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description:

English II focuses on the study of literature by utilizing texts from all different time periods including modern literature. This course will use multiple literary genres such as short stories, poetry, and novels. The students will read at least 3 novels throughout the year. A strong emphasis will be placed on grammar and vocabulary in order to help cultivate the students' writing skills. Writing will also be developed through a research unit which will include a thorough introduction to the library and all it has to offer in terms of sources and computer access as well as an introduction to the process of actually writing a research based paper in the MLA format. The students will also focus on persuasive writing and literary analysis/expository writing. This course will also include formal and informal oral presentations and independent novel study.

Prerequisite: English I

Note: This is a writing intensive course. Successful completion of this course meets one of the writing intense state requirements.

Course Objectives:

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

- analyze, compare, and evaluate various works of literature
- apply a variety of reading strategies to improve comprehension
- improve their vocabulary skills primarily in the context of the literature
- produce documents that exhibit a range of writing techniques
- analyze and evaluate the use of literary techniques in literature
- apply spelling, proofreading, basic grammatical and editing skills to augment their writing
- Understand written information and respond using personal experiences; make connections
- Speak comfortable in front of a class while conveying opinions and information.
- Comprehend the research process and an effectively research a topic in order to produce a written document

Required Class Materials:

- Literature Book or Novel
- Notebook
- Pen or pencil

Text:

- Elements of Literature Fourth Course

Course Outline:

We will be reading a variety of texts this year including, *The Catcher in the Rye*, *Romiette and Julio*, *Night* and others to be added later. We will be doing a research unit along with a variety of grammar activities, a public speaking unit and practicing our literary skills.

Major Assignments:

- Independent Reading Projects (due at the end of each quarter)
- Novel Studies: tentatively September, November, March and May
- Research paper: Beginning of 2nd semester

Grading:

- Grades are calculated based on total points.
- The final exam accounts for 15% of the final grade.

Class Policies & Procedures: (Include class policies and procedures i.e. lab make-ups, special requirements etc.)

- 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: (Days and times of availability, phone numbers, emails, etc.)

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