

Course Overview

Jenni Mackey – English III

Room: 230

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Tutorials: Tues. 7-7:30; Wed. 7-7:30

Course Description

English III will increase and refine students' communication skills through reading and writing while preparing students for the future. Various content and styles of writing will be used to engage high levels of critical thinking so all current skills can be strengthened. Students will also read and understand a wide variety of literary and informational texts followed by a variety of assessment activities. The curriculum and instruction in English III will change, sharpen and develop student skills as current knowledge expands. I believe that no matter the starting point, all students can grow beyond their current abilities. In turn, this English III class seeks to prepare students to become thinkers and leaders of our world.

Key Readings & Classroom Activities

- *The Crucible*
- *The Great Gatsby*
- Excerpts from nonfiction articles and speeches
- A variety of poems, short stories and memoirs

Supplies Needed

- Pens/Pencils
- Composition Notebook
- Your Planner
- Loose Leaf Paper
- Highlighters

Guidelines for Success

- ✓ Set up a healthy study, work, and sleep schedule without relying on adults to do it for you.
- ✓ Always be polite.
- ✓ When the teacher is speaking to the class, listen attentively without side conversations. *Keep a piece of paper on your desk to jot down questions so you will remember them at the appropriate time.*
- ✓ In whole class and team discussions:
 - Think before speaking.
 - Attack ideas, not people.
 - Direct your comments to the entire group.
 - Look at and listen to the recognized speaker
 - Avoid side conversations.

Classroom Rules/Expectations

- Be on time—students are expected to be in the classroom and at their seats when the bell rings.
- Stay in assigned seats—students are to be in their seats when attendance is taken and remain there until dismissed by the teacher. Students must ask permission to leave their seats during the class period.
- Be prepared for class—bring all required materials to each class.
- Be courteous and respectful to teacher, staff, and fellow students.
- Be attentive to classroom topic, discussion, instruction, or lesson.
- The teacher's desk, computer, White Board, and work area are off-limits to students. These areas may only be accessed by the request of the teacher.
- No food or drinks, other than water, are allowed in the classroom.

Grades

Weight of Assignments:

Short assignments/daily work—value x 1

Paragraphs/longer assignments/quizzes—value x 2

Essays/tests/projects—value x 3

Late Work:

All assignments are expected to be turned in at the time specified; however, some flexibility will be allowed to students with extenuating circumstances in regard to daily grades and makeup assignments. Daily work will receive a zero if turned in more than 1 week late. Late writing assignments and projects will lose ten points per calendar day.

DO NOT SLIP LATE ASSIGNMENTS UNDER MY DOOR IN HOPES THAT I WILL GET THEM THE NEXT MORNING BECAUSE, MORE THAN LIKELY, IT WILL BE THROWN AWAY BY THE CUSTODIANS. I am only on campus for 1st and 3rd and 2nd and 4th periods. DO NOT disrupt Mrs. Mennes' class to turn in late work for my class, she will not take it for you and if you somehow convince her to take it, I will not take it.

Department Make-ups:

Every Thursday after school, the English department holds a make-up session. The schedule of dates and locations of these sessions is posted on my bulletin board in the classroom. Thus, if you have a test or quiz to make up and it is work that I will still accept, make note of the appropriate date and location on the schedule, and that test or quiz should be waiting for you in make-ups. **Note: makeups are only for students who have missed a test or quiz on a specific date, and if a reasonable period of time has already passed and you have not made that test or quiz up, it is possible that you will not have the option to do so.** Thus, if extenuating circumstances exist that you feel merit an exception to this policy, please come to me in advance to politely discuss them. Finally, if you plan to attend make-ups, **please be prompt.**

****Please remember that it is *your* responsibility to make up or turn in your work.**

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty, or cheating, is defined as giving or receiving information or assistance on a test, possession of any unauthorized material during a test, copying another student's assignment (or knowingly allowing another student to copy from an assignment), submitting duplicate work, unauthorized collaboration, or having someone else complete an assignment on behalf of the student. Plagiarism, or presenting another's ideas, product, or words as one's own, is cheating. This includes claiming information or writings found on the internet as one's own. The penalty for academic dishonesty is a zero for the work involved and disciplinary action from the assistant principal. All students involved will be reported to the grade level office, and parents will be notified.

****If you have any questions or comments regarding this syllabus, please feel free to contact me during my conference times, during or after school, or by e-mail. I look forward to our year together!***

