**American Literature and Composition Course Syllabus *2019-2020***

**Coach Marcusky** Room #2204

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**Course Description**

American Literature and Composition is a skills-based course culminating in an End of Course Test (EOC Test) that focuses on the following: argumentative, expository, narrative writing; elements of research; literary and informational textual analysis; academic and domain-specific vocabulary; as well as discussion and presentation of ideas to facilitate higher-level thinking. Units of study will be thematic and include (but are not limited to) novels, short stories, poetry, drama, informational texts, vocabulary, research, and essay writing.

**CCSD Grading Scale**

90-100 = A 80-89 = B 74-79 = C 70-73 = D 69 and below = F

**Grading Percentages for Course Work**

15% Formative Writing & language assessments (classwork, homework, quizzes)

15% Formative Reading & Listening/Speaking/Viewing assessments (classwork, homework, quizzes)

25% Summative Writing & Language assessments (Essays, Projects, Tests)

25% Summative Reading & Listening/Speaking/Viewing assessments (Speeches, Projects, Tests)

20% EOC

\*\*A final exam is given at the end of the semester – this will be the final unit summative assessment.

\*\*There is a **State-Mandated End-of-Course Test**in American Literature that**counts 20%** of the final course grade. End-of-Course test scores are also posted on transcripts. The EOC for this course will be given at the end of the semester.

**Due Dates**

Assignments are due in class on the due date unless otherwise noted. Summative assignments may be submitted late for a penalty of **10% off per day late. No late summative assignments will be taken after the close of the 6-week period in which they were assigned.** In order to optimize feedback and learning, **formative classwork/homework** assignments will **NOT** be accepted late.

**Attendance/Make-Up Work**

It is **your** responsibility as a student to maintain make-up work or any information discussed in class while absent. If you are absent look on the class blog for the information you missed, and be sure **to check the make-up bin** for anything with your name on it. If you missed notes while you were gone, get that information from one of your classmates or check the blog, sometimes notes appear there. If you still have questions, ask the teacher before or after class or during extra help hours. Bottom line**: it is your responsibility**.

*Grades will be placed as a 0 until any outstanding work is made up. Please note - class time is not used to make-up work!*

If a student misses a classwork/homework assignment due to an absence, he/she will be permitted to make-up the assignment or will be omitted from it all together. If the student misses a quiz or test, he/she will have a week to make up the missed assignment before it cannot be made-up. Long-term assignments or upcoming tests are expected to be completed on time even if absent the day prior.

**Semester Schedule**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Unit Theme** | **Summative Assessments** | **Major Textual Readings** |
| **Unit 1: The Power of Persuasion:**  **The Building of a Nation & Its Literature** | Summative EOC Style Test  Writing & Presenting an argumentative Speech | *The Crucible,* Arthur Miller |
| **Unit 2: The Pursuit of Happiness: American Romanticism** | Summative EOC Style Test  Argument Analysis  Poetry & Tone Development Analysis | *Into the Wild*, Jon Krakauer  *Dead Poets Society* - film |
| **Unit 3: The Marketplace of Ideas: American Realism** | Summative EOC Style Test  Passage Based Narrative Writing | *No Extended Reading* |
| **Unit 4: The American Dream: American Modernism** | Summative EOC Style Test  Synthesis researched-argument essay based on given passages | *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald |
| **Unit 5: The American Journey: American Post-Modernism/Contemporary** | Summative EOC Style Test  Literary Analysis Essay or Project | *Their Eyes Were Watching God* Zora Neale Hurston OR  *Death of a Salesman* Arthur Miller OR *A Raisin in the Sun* Lorraine Hansberry |
| ***Summative Remediation will be offered each unit through test-corrections and essay revisions.*** | | |

**Class Expectations**

The faculty and students at Kell are a community of people working together. In order to accomplish our goals, we must treat each other with mutual respect and adhere to established expectations of behavior.

**Classroom Procedures**

* Once the bell rings, be in the classroom and please take out necessary materials for class; start reviewing/working on the warm-up or given instructions provided on the board.
* Bathroom/Hall Passes: No passes are given within the first or last 10 minutes of class. Passes out of the classroom will be given at the discretion of the teacher. You have 5 bathroom passes to use for the semester. Use them wisely.
* Class is not dismissed by the bell. Students are to remain in their seats until the teacher dismisses them. Do not herd like cattle at the door, please ☺

**Materials Required**

* Lined paper, pens, pencils, highlighters
* An organized binder - Organization plan will be reviewed in class.
* Textbook: Springboard English language Arts Grade 11(consumable textbook)

**Classwork**

Classwork will be a combination of lecture, discussion of readings, answering student questions, group work, and independent work. **Attendance and participation in class are essential to your success in this course. Any and all class work is subject to grading.**

**Extra Help & Make-Up Work Hours**

Available each week! Just speak with the teacher and sign-up for an appointment.

**Class Blog:** www.marcusky.weebly.com

A classroom blog is available for both the student and parent to have as a tool in keeping up with classroom assignments and activities. The blog is updated each day with the daily agenda, including printable handouts, notes (when possible), and assignments. If a student misses class or has a question regarding an assignment or activity in class, this is the first place to check before coming to the teacher.

**General Class Behavioral Expectations**

Students are expected to be in class every day, arrive on time, and remain attentive, respectful, and on task throughout the entire class period.

* **Show RESPECT**: For your teacher, yourself, and your classmates.
* **Please bring ALL necessary materials to class, everyday**; failure to do so will result in a lower conduct grade. Necessary materials include books, notebooks, writing utensils, assignments, etc.
* **Keep voices at an appropriate level**
* **No DISTRACTING Food or Drink** – Drinks must have lids and your area must remain clean of food or drink debris. This privilege will be revoked if cleanliness becomes an issue.
* **NO electronic devices permitted** unless the device is being used for academic purposes and has been approved by the teacher; this includes smart watches; this includes charging. If at any time the teacher believes a student is abusing the privilege of using electronic devices, the privilege will be taken away.
  + Phone calls and/or texting are NEVER permitted in the classroom unless given direct permission by a teacher.
  + Using a PED to take pictures or recordings is NEVER permitted in the classroom unless given direct permission by a teacher.
  + PEDs are NEVER permitted to be out during a testing environment. If a PED is out during a testing situation it will automatically be assumed that the student is cheating and cheating consequences will be implemented.

**\*Consequences** for breaking any of the above rules:

1) A verbal warning by the teacher

2) A telephone call to the parents or guardian of the student in violation of classroom rules

3) Morning/Afternoon Detention

4) Referral to administration

**\*If misconduct is an extreme offense, consequence one, two, and/or three from above may be by-passed.**

**\*\*A copy of this syllabus is available on the class blog should you need to refer back to it at any time.\*\***

**Please complete the attached portion and return it to the teacher ASAP**

**I have read the course syllabus and class expectations information sheet, and I understand the student is responsible for knowing the information and following all of the course rules and regulations. I also understand that the class blog will be updated daily and will be a vital part of this class.**

**Student’s signature Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent’s Signature Date**

**IMPORTANT for PARENTS:** *Parents, please neatly PRINT the following information.*

**Does your student have consistent access to a computer with Microsoft Word? YES\_\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_\_**

**Does your student have consistent access to the internet? YES\_\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_\_**

**Home Phone Number:**

**Mother/ Legal Guardian Name**

**Second Contact Number (cell phone or work #)**

**\*\*Email Contact:**

**Father/ Legal Guardian Name**

**Second Contact Number (cell phone or work #)**

**\*\*Email Contact:**