

English I Honors

2007-2008

Syllabus for Ms. Moritz and Mrs. Shade

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course focuses on the elements of writing, grammar, and literature. Students work on the development of analytical writing skills, the review and application of grammar, and the study of vocabulary skills. The study of fiction stresses identifying and understanding the use of literary elements in the genres of short story, poetry, nonfiction, drama, and the novel. Each quarter students may be expected to read and analyze a book outside-of-class. They are expected to write mature essays that focus on the entire writing process, including revision. Students are also required to actively participate in group seminars and to contribute meaningfully to class discussions.

OVERALL COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students in this course will develop and demonstrate:

- Critical thinking applied to literature and nonfiction
- An understanding of literary and poetic elements
- The ability to connect themes, ideas, and techniques throughout several different texts
- An understanding of the historical and social context of selected literary works
- Varied and mature sentence structure
- Techniques for creating well-structured essays
- Effective essay revision
- The ability to develop and support a literary thesis
- The correct use of quotations and other supporting evidence in writing
- The correct use of MLA format, including research citations
- Increased understanding of vocabulary denotations and connotations
- The ability to process and effectively present information to a group
- The ability to identify and correct grammatical errors in writing
- A greater understanding of correct grammatical usage
- Familiarity with SAT question styles and topics
- Knowledge of test-taking tips and strategies

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Students will receive instruction through class discussions and seminars, demonstrations, paired activities and cooperative learning, student-driven presentations and teacher-driven presentations, lectures, and audio-visual media.

TEXTBOOKS

- *NTC's Anthology of Nonfiction* by J. Gordon/K. Kuehner
- *Vocabulary Workshop Level E*
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee *Anthem* (summer)
- *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles (summer)
- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury (summer)
- *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card
- *1984* by George Orwell
- *Night* by Elie Wiesel
- *Twelfth Night* by William Shakespeare
- *Mythology* by Edith Hamilton
- *The Odyssey* by Homer
- *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare

OTHER MATERIALS

Portions of the following audio-visual materials will be used:

- Audio lectures by Dr. Eliot Engel
- PBS: "Standard Deviants Guide to Shakespeare"
- *Twelfth Night* (1996)
- Clips from *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1962)
- Clips from *A Separate Peace*, (2005)
- *Swing Kids* (1993)
- *The Odyssey* (1997)
- *Romeo and Juliet* (1965, clips from 1996)
- "Shakespeare in the Classroom" documentary by the makers of *Shakespeare in Love*

- Clips from the Family-Flix[®] edited-for-content version of *Shakespeare in Love* (1999)

GRADING POLICY

Quarter Grades are divided into three categories:

15% of the quarter grade comes from Daily Work (class discussions, reading quizzes, in-class work, preparation, and homework)

50% of the quarter grade comes from Tests (unit tests, vocabulary tests and some longer quizzes)

35% of the quarter comes from Alternative Assessment (writing assignments, projects, and other activities as determined by the teacher)

As a rule, typed essays must be submitted to Turnitin.com in order to receive a grade. Be sure to check the assignment sheets and/or class website carefully for instructions regarding Turnitin.com.

*Please be aware that students must maintain a minimum B grade each quarter in order to remain in honors. Students who fall below a B for two or more quarters, or who perform consistently at a low level in any one quarter will be moved to regular English.

ABSENCE AND MAKE-UP WORK POLICY

Please note: The school has a NO LATE WORK ACCEPTED policy.

Assignments must be handed in DURING CLASS. Assignments handed in any time after that are considered late and cannot be accepted for a grade.

Students are responsible for checking the Lesson Plans section of our class website **before** returning from **any** absence [illnesses, trips, school activities, appointments, etc]. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain any work that was missed. Updated lesson plans and homework will be available on the class website after 4pm each day.

According to school policy, all assignments [including tests and quizzes] must be made up within one week of the original date (or sooner at the discretion of the teacher) in order to receive a grade. If a test or quiz was announced before a student was absent, that student may have to make up the test or quiz the day he or she returns to school.

FIRST SEMESTER

SUMMER READING

TIME LINE: Approximately one week

UNIT OBJECTIVES:

Understand themes/issues used in each summer-reading novel [as well as those shared throughout all three]; Analyze and evaluate the messages of each novel; Visualize the effect of each novel's issues and events if they had occurred in our society or time; Recognize and understand use of literary elements [symbols, motifs, conflict] in each novel.

UNIT CONTENT:

Fahrenheit 451
To Kill a Mockingbird
A Separate Peace

UNIT EVALUATIONS include but may not be limited to the following:

Daily Work: short quizzes on assigned reading and material covered in class; practice assignments

Tests: Unit Test on all three novels [multiple choice, matching, and short answer]

Alternate Assessment: Three-Way Venn diagram incorporating all the novels

SHORT FICTION

TIME LINE: Approximately two weeks

UNIT OBJECTIVES:

Identify literary terms and uses in the short story; Identify details used for characterization, setting, conflict, plot, theme. Grammar focus on subject/verb agreement in complex sentences, punctuating titles; Writing focus on strong paragraphs, topic sentences and support, using transitions

SHORT FICTION [continued]

UNIT CONTENT:

"The Open Window" by Saki
"The Cask of Amontillado" by Edgar Allen Poe
"The House on Mango Street" [excerpt] by Sandra Cisneros
Other short stories as determined during the unit
Vocabulary Units from Sadlier-Oxford

UNIT EVALUATIONS include but may not be limited to the following:

Daily Work: short quizzes on assigned reading and material covered in class; practice assignments; class discussions, in-class writing, vocabulary work.

Tests: Unit Test on short story literary elements and all short stories [multiple choice, matching, short answer, and essay]; Tests on vocabulary chapters covered

Alternate Assessment: character diary entry or blog, revision paragraphs.

1984 by GEORGE ORWELL

TIME LINE: Approximately three weeks

UNIT OBJECTIVES:

Understand themes/issues used in the novel [as well as similar ones in other works]; Analyze and evaluate the messages of the novel; Visualize the effect of each novel's issues and events if they had occurred in our society or time; Recognize and understand use of literary elements [symbols, motifs, conflict] in the novel; write correctly and convincingly and use supporting evidence.

UNIT CONTENT:

1984 by George Orwell
Vocabulary Units from Sadlier-Oxford

UNIT EVALUATIONS include but may not be limited to the following:

Daily Work: short quizzes on assigned reading and material covered in class; practice assignments; class discussions, in-class writing, vocabulary work.

Tests: Unit Test on the material [multiple choice, matching, and short answer]

Alternate Assessment: Writing assignments, presentations, charts, etc.

NONFICTION from NTC ANTHOLOGY OF NONFICTION

TIME LINE: Approximately two weeks

UNIT OBJECTIVES:

Understand writing techniques and styles particular to nonfiction; Understand and identify Purpose, Authority, Logic, Bias, Evidence, and Gain related to nonfiction pieces. Write correctly and convincingly and use supporting evidence.

UNIT CONTENT:

Selections from NTC ANTHOLOGY OF NONFICTION textbook:
"Learning from my Grandmothers"
"Nothing to Declare"
"The \$port\$ Report"
"Good Housekeeping"
"The Man with No Endorphins"
"Mother Tongue"
Vocabulary Units from Sadlier-Oxford

UNIT EVALUATIONS include but may not be limited to the following:

Daily Work: short quizzes on assigned reading and material covered in class; practice assignments; class discussions, in-class writing, vocabulary work.

Tests: Unit Test on the material [multiple choice, matching, and short answer]

Alternate Assessment: Writing assignments, presentations, charts, etc.

NIGHT by ELIE WIESEL

TIME LINE: Approximately three weeks

UNIT OBJECTIVES:

Understand themes/issues used in the novel [as well as similar ones in other works]; Analyze and evaluate the messages of the novel; Visualize the effect of each novel's issues and events if they had occurred in our society or time; Recognize and understand use of literary elements [symbols, motifs, conflict] in the novel; write correctly and convincingly and use supporting evidence.

UNIT CONTENT:

Night by Elie Wiesel
Swing Kids film directed by Peter Jackson
Interview footage with the author
Vocabulary Units from Sadlier-Oxford

UNIT EVALUATIONS include but may not be limited to the following:

Daily Work: short quizzes on assigned reading and material covered in class; practice assignments; class discussions, in-class writing, vocabulary work.

Tests: Unit Test on the material [multiple choice, matching, and short answer]

Alternate Assessment: Writing assignments, presentations, charts, etc.

ENDER'S GAME by ORSON SCOTT CARD

TIME LINE: Independent reading during the semester

UNIT OBJECTIVES:

Understand themes/issues used in the novel [as well as similar ones in other works]; Analyze and evaluate the messages of the novel; Visualize the effect of each novel's issues and events if they had occurred in our society or time; Recognize and understand use of literary elements [symbols, motifs, conflict] in the novel; write correctly and convincingly and use supporting evidence.

UNIT CONTENT:

Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card

UNIT EVALUATIONS include but may not be limited to the following:

Daily Work: short quizzes on assigned reading and material covered in class; practice assignments; class discussions, in-class writing, vocabulary work.

Tests: Unit Test on the material [multiple choice, matching, and short answer]

Alternate Assessment: Writing assignments, presentations, charts, etc.

SEMESTER EXAM

WEIGHT and GRADE IMPACT :

20% of the semester grade will come from the semester [mid-term] exam

40% of the semester grade will come from the First Quarter grade

40% of the semester grade will come from the Second Quarter grade

CONTENT and FORMAT

All material listed above [including summer reading and independent reading] will be included on the semester exam.

Any other material covered in class [grammar instruction, writing instruction, etc.] will be included on the semester exam

Question formats will include multiple choice, matching, short answer, and an essay