



## ENGLISH IV COLLEGE PREP 2017-2018 SYLLABUS

**INSTRUCTOR:** Catherine Lee  
**ROOM:** J

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**WEBSITE:** leeclassroom.com

### COURSE OVERVIEW

This writing intensive course has three primary strands of instruction that embody the interconnected and ever-evolving nature of literature and language. As seniors, students are expected to utilize at the highest level the skills of critical thinking, research, analysis, evaluation, and Socratic discourse.

- **LITERATURE:** This strand focuses on Modern and Post-Modern British literature/poetry, world literature, multiple genres, literary criticism, reading comprehension, and author's craft.
- **THESIS:** The senior thesis is a year-long capstone project that involves the writing of a Weltanschauung, Apologia, and Vocare. It is a rigorous and challenging exploration of personal theology, worldview, vocation, and the Bible. Students will deliver an oral presentation of the Apologia and Vocare to the class.
- **RHETORIC:** Students will demonstrate effective communication, both individually and collaboratively, through spoken and written compositions in multiple formats and genres.

### TEXTS

- The Holy Bible (NIV)
- *1984*, George Orwell
- *The Great Divorce*, C.S. Lewis
- *The Lord of the Flies*, William Golding
- *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, Robert Louis Stevenson
- *Things Fall Apart*, Chinua Achebe
- *As We Forgive*, Catherine Claire Larson
- *The Greatest Thing in the World*, Henry Drummond
- *Pride and Prejudice*, Jane Austen
- *Hamlet*, William Shakespeare
- Selections of poetry and short stories

N.B. Some texts contain mature content or controversial issues. We will discuss context and examine multiple views. I approach all texts prayerfully to ensure discussions are meaningful and appropriate.

### RESOURCES

- Reference binder for the Senior Thesis
- *The Blue Book of Grammar and Punctuation*
- *MLA: The Easy Way* (8th edition)

### SPEECH

On numerous occasions, students are expected to speak in front of the class in both informal and formal presentations. There will also be 1 memorized recitation per semester.

### FILMS

Portions of films will be shown in class. They are treated as texts as they foster discussions on intertextuality, literary revisionism, and perspective. I also incorporate music and video clips to illustrate tone, rhetorical devices, literary tropes, and appeals.

## GRADING

- Participation, Engagement, & Preparedness (P.E.P) 5%
- Homework 20%
- Quizzes/Minor Papers 35%
- Tests (including major papers and projects) 40%

Unless otherwise noted, assignments should be turned into the tray *at the beginning of class*. There are at least three test grades per quarter and a final exam at the end of each semester. A research paper is assigned in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. The P.E.P grade reflects the student's engagement during in-class assignments and preparedness (bringing materials to class, engaging in discussions, etc.).

## MAKE UP WORK POLICY

You have one day for each excused absence to make up assignments. Missed tests will be rescheduled. With unexcused absences, all missed hw is due the first day you return. If you know that you will be absent, contact me ahead of time, NOT on the day something is due. Late work will not be accepted and will result in a zero (school policy). Refer to the BCS handbook for details.

## CLASSROOM CIVILITY

*"Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience." Colossians. 3:12*

The literature we read provides many opportunities for class discussions and debates. You are encouraged to share your thoughts and speak your mind in a manner that is respectful of others with differing perspectives. Opinions should be expressed with compassion and humility.

## GUIDELINES

- Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating, will result in a zero and a referral. I trust you to complete your own work and be truthful in all interactions.
- Come to class prepared. Bring your book and binder to class every day.
- No spoilers! If you have already read a book or watched a film adaptation, don't spoil the plot.
- Write clearly and legibly. Illegible assignments will be marked *Incomplete* and you will be required to rewrite or type your work. Feel free to type any take-home assignments.
- The senior thesis will be in Turabian format. All other formal writing will follow MLA format.

## PROCEDURES

- Most class sessions will begin with a brief bellwork writing prompt.
- During tests and quizzes, you will place your backpacks and all other belongings against the back wall. You may not have anything at your desk except a pen and a water bottle.
- You will write and sign the honor code at the bottom of every test.
- Use a blue or black pen for all homework, quizzes, and tests. No pencils, please.
- At the top of all your work, you will print your full name, date, and your assigned number.

## IMPORTANT WEBSITES

**RENWEB** – school-wide information management system (hw assignments, grades, etc.)

I post homework and test/quiz dates on Friday afternoons for the following week. They are also on my board and announced verbally. ***I defer to RenWeb if there is ever a discrepancy.***

**LEECLASSROOM.COM** – class notes, rubrics, and resources (Password: 2COR4)

**GOOGLE CLASSROOM** – online writing assignments and discussion boards (Class code: 32uklyt)

**REMIND.COM** – text announcements and reminders (Text @11h1718 to the number 81010)

**TURNITIN.COM** – submit formal essays, plagiarism reports (Class ID: 15496795 / Password: bigbrother)

*"There is always the danger that we may just do the work for the sake of the work. This is where the **respect** and the **love** and the devotion come in – that we do it to God, to Christ, and that's why we try to do it as beautifully as possible." ~Mother Teresa*