



ENGLISH 11 HONORS 2020-2021 SYLLABUS

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ROOM: C203

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COURSE OVERVIEW

Andrea Lundsford says, “Rhetoric is the art, practice, and study of human communication.” We will study the art of rhetoric through representative novels of American and British literature, as well as an extensive selection of non-fiction. This course is reading and writing intensive. It will demand a high level of self-motivation. By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Identify audience, purpose, and rhetorical strategies in texts
- Understand their own writing process and the importance of revision
- Craft compelling written and verbal rhetorical arguments
- Synthesize ideas and information from various sources
- *Have something to say. Say it clearly. Say it thoroughly.*

AP EXAM

Most students opt to take the AP English Language & Composition Exam in May (passing scores earn college credit). The test is approx. \$90. Although I do many things to prepare students for the exam, this is not an official AP course, and will be skill-focused rather than test-focused.

TEXTS

- *Fahrenheit 451*, Ray Bradbury (summer)
- *The Scarlet Letter*, Nathaniel Hawthorne
- *Frankenstein*, Mary Shelley
- *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald
- *Of Mice and Men*, John Steinbeck
- *Night*, Elie Wiesel
- *Romeo and Juliet*, William Shakespeare
- Various poetry selections
- Various non-fiction speeches, articles, and essays
- *The Language of Composition*, 3rd Edition

N.B. Literature has a unique way of reflecting the human condition, sometimes at its best and sometimes at its worst. These works are selected for literary merit and college readiness, and they may contain occasional mature content and/or language. The texts are taught prayerfully from a Biblical worldview and with historical and cultural context in mind.

FILMS

Films are treated as texts as they foster discussions on intertextuality, revisionism, and tropes.

- *Fahrenheit 451* (1966)
- *The Great Gatsby* (2013)
- *Of Mice and Men* (1992)
- *Romeo and Juliet* (various adaptations)

SPEECHES

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.

CLASSROOM CIVILITY

“Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.” Colossians. 3:12

There will be many opportunities for class discussions and debates. You are encouraged to speak your mind in a manner that is respectful of others with differing perspectives.

GRADES

- Participation, Engagement, & Preparedness (P.E.P) 10%
- Homework 20%
- Quizzes 30%
- Tests (including major papers and projects) 40%

Unless otherwise noted, assignments should be turned into the tray *at the beginning of class*. Work placed in the wrong tray will be considered late. There are at least three test grades per quarter and a final exam at the end of the semester. A research paper is assigned in the 2nd semester.

P.E.P. GRADE – Reflects student engagement in class and preparedness (bring materials to class, participate in discussions, completes bellwork, etc.).

RETURNED WORK – Shorter essays will be graded and returned to students approximately 1 week from the due date. Longer essays will take approximately 2 weeks.

FEEDBACK – Students can expect a range of feedback. Many writing assignments are returned with feedback. Shorter or informal writing may be graded with little to no comments, especially when the focus is on practice. Twice a year, I conduct individual writing conferences with students.

MAKE UP WORK POLICY

You have one day for each excused absence to make up work. If unexcused, missed hw is due the day you return. If you know you will be absent, contact me ahead of time, NOT the day something is due. Late work is not accepted (school policy). Refer to the BCS handbook for details. If you miss an appointment to make up a test or quiz, you will receive a zero.

GUIDELINES & PROCEDURES

- Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating, will result in a zero and a referral.
- Bring your book and binder to class every day. Consequences include a tardy and/or zero.
- All formal writing will follow MLA guidelines. This is consistent with college English courses.
- During tests and quizzes, place your backpacks and all other belongings against the wall.
- Use a pink slip for late work, missing work, and makeup work.
- 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 and date.
- 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 may be required to rewrite or type your work. Feel free to type any take-home assignments.
- You **MUST** get permission to eat or drink in my class.

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

RENWEB – If there is a discrepancy between RenWeb and what is on the board, I defer to RenWeb.

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

GOOGLE CLASSROOM – Used during in-person learning for occasional online assignments and discussion boards. If we move to online learning, it will be our primary platform (Class code: 6dcdi5z)

REMIND – text announcements and reminders (Text @bcs11h to the number 81010)

TURNITIN.COM – essay originality and plagiarism reports (Class ID: 25671792 / Enrollment key: gatsby)

*“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*