

JUNIOR ENGLISH SYLLABUS-T.C.T.C.
2011-2012
MS. MILLER

Welcome to the Trumbull Career and Technical Center. I hope that your first year at this school will be exciting and educational. The information in this syllabus will familiarize you with what you will be learning in English, the rules in this class, and what will be expected of you concerning grades and attendance.

This course is designed to familiarize the students with the aspects of American Literature. The students will gain their knowledge through the combination of the five language arts. They will read different types of literature, they will write and respond to what they have read or heard. They will listen by way of class lecture or classroom discussions, they will view through literature related videos, and they will speak through student presentations. There will be some class time spent in the computer lab where students will work on computers doing classroom projects.

The grading scale is:

92-100=A

83-91=B

74-82=C

66-73=D

0-65=F

Make-up work will be handled as follows: The students will have one day for every day that they have missed to make up their assignment. You must ask me what work you missed! Don't expect me to remember to tell you, please ask.

Attendance: the school policy states that a student can miss no more than 18 days per school year. There will be very few exceptions to the rule; only medical excuses or court related excuses, any student that exceeds those 18 days will receive no credit in that particular class. Please remember this!

Class rules: The rules for my classroom will be posted in the front of the room all year long. Please make sure that you follow them. There are particular rules that are T.C.T.C. rules, and they will be gone over when we look at the student handbook at the start of the year. The most important rules are: You must wear your program shirt, no cell phones, and no eating or drinking in class.

Course goals and assignments:

1. To familiarize the student with the classics in American Literature. You will gain an appreciation for well known authors, and their works. We will read at least three novels during the course of the year. I have not definitely decided which novels we will read but some possibilities are: I Have Lived a Thousand Years by Livia Bitton-Jackson, The Gospel According to Larry, and Breathing Underwater. Also with your school fees I will order, and you will read, Copper Sun, and the novel, Runner. We will also read the plays, The Crucible, and A Streetcar Named Desire.
2. The student will demonstrate the ability to write different types of essays. The essays will be 1-2 pages in length, and we will go over them in class. The third nine weeks you will write a 3-4 page research paper. This paper will deal with topics that tie in with the book, Chew On This. This book is about the fast food industry. This will take a number of weeks, and we will work on it together. This will be discussed at a later date.
3. The student will become accustomed to expressing themselves orally in front of others. Each nine weeks you will give a short speech where the subject will be determined by me. The first speech that you give will incorporate music, interpretation, and art.
4. The last nine weeks of the school year you will put together a poetry book of your own poems. They will be worked on in class, and in the computer lab. Even if you are not fond of poetry, you will like this assignment.
5. By the second week of the school year you will be expected to have a book chosen for "Independent Reading" which will take place every Friday for the entire school year. This project is to gain an appreciation for reading. You will be expected to read the entire period, and respond in writing to what you are reading. This book will be your choice, so there is no excuse for not being interested in your book. If after reading, a time or two, you decide that you don't like the book, exchange it for another book.
6. We will work on Greek Mythology for a brief period of time during the course of the year. This will include the reading of Greek myths and each student presenting information on a particular God or Goddess, and putting together a costume which represents this particular God/Goddess.