



Senior English 2011-2012 Ms. J. Miller

Welcome back to the Trumbull Career and Technical Center. I hope that you have had a good summer, and that you're ready for your senior year. The information in this syllabus will familiarize you with what you will be learning in senior English.

The rules for the class will be covered, and also what is expected of you concerning grades and attendance.

This course is designed so that the student will become aware of different aspects of British Literature. The student will gain their knowledge through the combination of the five language arts. They will read different types of literature, and they will write or respond to what they have heard. They will listen by way of class lectures or discussions. They will view through literature related videos, and student presentations. Also the student will speak through classroom discussions and presentations. There will be some class time spent working in the Computer Lab where students will work on computers doing classroom projects.

The grading scale is as follows:

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 to make up any work missed for every day that they have been absent. You must ask me what assignments are due after your absence. Don't expect me to remind you of what work you owe, it is your responsibility. Please ask!!!

Attendance: The school policy states that a student can miss no more than 18 days for the school year. There will be very few exceptions to that rule. Medical

excuse or court related absences are the only absences that are not counted in the 18 days missed. Any student that exceeds the 18 days allowed will not receive credit for the class. Please remember this!!

Classroom rules: There are certain rules that are not only my classroom rules, but they are rules that have to be followed by the entire school. Three rules that must be followed are 1) No eating in class (no food or beverage) 2) Program shirts must be worn and 3) Cell phones are not permitted. 4) Classroom appropriate language

Course Goals, Assignments, and Projects:

1. You will gain an appreciation for well known British authors, and their works. We will spend some time on Shakespeare, and discover his impact on British literature. There will be some time spent on the reading and understanding of the epic poem, Beowulf. Some time will be spent on the reading of King Arthur stories, including Sir Gawain and the Green Knight. We will complete a mini research project with Beowulf so that you will be reminded of how to site sources with the use of Noodle Tools. We will also read the novel, Deadline, by Chris Crutcher, and the novel The Five People You Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom. Both of these novels will be purchased with your student fees. We will also read Catcher in the Rye, by J.D. Salinger, and Breaking Point, by Alex Flinn.

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. Sometime during the first nine weeks, we will begin to work on the Senior Project. You will be researching some aspect of your lab, and through research write a 3-5 page research paper. There will be many sections of the Senior Project to be completed throughout the school year. This paper will take approximately nine weeks to complete, and will be used as your mid-term grade. The Senior Project is necessary for graduation.

3. The student will become accustomed to expressing themselves orally in front of their classmates. Each nine weeks you will give a short speech where the subject will be determined by me.

4. During the last nine weeks of the school year we will work in class on a poetry project. A particular theme will be chosen by you, and then you will compile poetry that deals with that theme. You will include information on particular poets and interpretations on the poetry you have chosen.

6. By the second week of the school year you are responsible for having a book of your choice brought to class. Every Friday for the entire school year you will

be doing Independent Reading. This means that you will bring your book, and read for the entire period. You will be responsible for journal entries, and a project for your book at the end of the nine weeks. Every nine weeks you will bring a new book, and start this process again. The first nine weeks it will be a novel of your choice. The second nine weeks, and so on, I may ask that it be a biography, or a non-fiction book. You must have this book every Friday, or you will lose points for the day. The points you will receive every Friday is 50 points if you have your book, and you read the entire period. The purpose of Independent Reading is to gain an interest in reading, or to continue your love for reading.

Miscellaneous:

You have paid a \$15.00 book fee. With this money I will order a few books that we will read either aloud, or silently, in class. We will also do some projects and presentations with the books that are ordered. These books will be yours to keep after we are done reading, and working with them in class.

We will work on short writing activities on a weekly basis. This writing will be kept in a folder in class. The folder will be supplied.