

AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor: Mrs. Alicia Mustard

Location: RM 101

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Let's begin with this declaration: literature, for the most part, is not practical. It doesn't tell us how to fix our cars, repair or troubleshoot a computer, balance an account, etc. What it does do, however, is more subtle and, I believe, more powerful. It takes us out of ourselves, providing transcendent experiences that often give us insight to the world around us, and sometimes, even to ourselves. It puts us in impossible circumstances which we cannot imagine coming true- and make us think about "what if" situations. It provides case studies of successful lives and incredible failures. It tells us what to do and what not to do-Romeo and Juliet anyone? Through literature we live vicariously; we travel, both in time and place; we change genders; we experience melancholy, elation, fear, courage, ignorance, wisdom, humor – every emotion imaginable. In short – it makes us grow and think.

The ideals behind literature all deal with morals, values and rules of society. Each text we will be studying has a moral agenda. Sometimes the agenda will be obvious, to the point of being blatant. Other times it will require thought and provocative questions to figure out this 'moral' agenda. Literature challenges us to take an informed moral stance: to examine lives well-lived and lives squandered, to examine our values and morals in relation to others. Ultimately, literature guides us in developing a moral code with which we can comfortably live. Many of the novels and short stories we read and discuss will be making a statement about the culture and morals we do, and sometimes do not exhibit. The literature will make you think about OUR literature history/culture and its connections with the historical perception versus reality.

This course should challenge you academically. You will read constantly, write frequently and think relentlessly about who you are. Please remember – growth is sometimes painful and my ultimate goal is to help you grow.

AP Literature and Composition will strengthen and expand skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening and research. The focus will be on increasing sophisticated language skills such as complex sentence structures and word choice. This course will further emphasize a positive learning environment, which will help prepare students for life after high school.

TEXTS

Copies of the following texts will be made available to students. Students are, however, encouraged to purchase their own copies of the novels that we read in class, so that they may annotate them as they are reading.

Supplemental texts

The Bedford Glossary of Critical and Literary Terms

Literature and Composition

Supplemental readings may include, but are not limited to: *The Crucible*, *East of Eden*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Ten Days in a Mad House*, "Hamlet", "King Lear", *The Invisible Man*, *Crime and Punishment*, *Heart of Darkness*.

SUGGESTED SUPPLIES/MATERIALS

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| ✓ Highlighters | ✓ Binder with dividers |
| ✓ College-ruled Paper | ✓ Post-It Notes |
| ✓ Composition Book | ✓ McQueen High School Planner (provided by MHS) |
| ✓ Plenty of pencils and blue/black ink pens (no other colors will be accepted) | ✓ MHS School I.D. |
| ✓ Box of Tissue | |

McQueen High School's goal is to have 90% attendance for students. Please make it a priority to show up to school. The Washoe County School District Attendance Policy will be the official attendance policy in this classroom.

A. Absences- High school students will be able to earn credit if they are in attendance 90% of the time. Regardless of the absence being excused or unexcused, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE for getting and completing missed work.

B. Make-up work from absences- Please check the weekly agenda and Class Notebook on TEAMS for missing work. If any notes, assignments, or handouts need further explanation, you need to schedule an appointment with me during lunch or after school. You will have the same number of days you were absent plus one day to finish any make-up work. For example, if you are absent for three class periods, you will need to turn in your make-up work during the fourth class after your return, unless otherwise agreed upon by you and the teacher.

ALL MAKE-UP WORK MUST STATE "ABSENT"!

C. Assignments/Tests due on the date of your absence- Any work due on the date(s) you were absent will be due upon your return to class. There is NO grace period for these assignments. If you are absent on the day a test is given, you will need to take the test on the day you return to class. PLEASE NOTE: Make-up tests will be different and usually more difficult than the original test.

ASSIGNMENTS

A variety of assignments will be completed throughout the course of the year. Each assignment MUST HAVE:

1. Your first **and** last name
2. The date
3. The class period

NOTE: Assignments that **DO NOT** have the above items in the top right hand corner **WILL NOT** be graded and will be considered late!

ASSESSMENT CATEGORIES

Each unit of study will focus on the development and mastery of certain skills (standards). All assignments for this class have been divided into the following categories:

- **15% Claim** (activities assessing the learning through timed write, Socratics, and research paper)
- **15% Supporting Claims with Evidence** (activities assessing the learning through timed writes, Socratics, and research paper)
- **15% Reasoning & Commentary** (activities assessing the learning through timed writes, Socratics, and research paper)
- **15% Analysis of Text for Literary Elements** (activities assessing the learning of literary terms and use)
- **10% Use of Language** (activities assessing the learning of language: homework & quizzes)
- **15% Speaking and Listening** (activities assessing the learning through presentations & Socratics)

➤ **15% Final Exam**

* Grades will be posted live on Infinite Campus and are always up to date!

Homework – It will be given periodically and will serve one of the following purposes:

1. To complete something not completed in class.
2. As preparation for the lesson the next day, which may be reading, writing, or both.
3. As summative work reflecting on or assessing activities in class.

Homework is due at the beginning of class the day it is due! No exceptions! Homework due dates will be displayed either on the Unit's agenda or on the board.

**LATE WORK
POLICY**

Class Work

- **All class work is expected to be completed during class.**

Late Work Policy

- **Late work policy refers to homework.**
 - All students, in all courses, will be provided with the opportunity to complete missing assignments, per policy below.
 - Teachers may choose to give students an alternative assignment that allows them to demonstrate they have met the standard.
 - Late work will only be accepted within a three week window.

Quiz and/or Test Retake Policy

- Teachers may choose to give students an alternative quiz and/or test that allow them to demonstrate they have met the standard.
- Teachers may require students to retake quizzes and tests and/or complete test corrections during Freshman Seminar.

GRADING

Your English grade will be based on the percentage of total points earned in class. The percentages for grades will be based on the scale listed below:

- A 100-90**
- B 89-80**
- C 79-70**
- D 69-60**
- F 59 and below**

Note: There is **no "curve"** grading system in this class. You are responsible for the grade earned. I will assist you in every way I can, but ultimately your grade is determined by the effort and quality of the work you choose to submit.

**CONFERENCES WITH MRS.
MUSTARD**

Please feel free to contact me via phone (775)746-5880 or e-mail amustard@washoeschools.net . Students may also feel free to schedule an appointment with me after school or during lunch to discuss anything from missing assignments to how to be more successful in class and/or at McQueen High School.

PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION FORM
MRS. MUSTARD - ROOM 101
AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

I have read and understand the class expectations, procedures, and course outline for AP Literature and Composition.

Student's Name (please print):

Student Signature:

Date _____

Parent/Guardian Name (please print):

Parent / Guardian Signature

Date _____

My child (circle one) **MAY** or **MAY NOT** read from any of the books listed on the course outline. Please be cognizant that if an alternative book is requested, your student will not be able to participate in class discussions, activities and/or movies. Please list below any books that your child may not read.

Parent/Guardian Signature:

_____ **Date** _____

My child (circle one) **MAY** or **MAY NOT** watch G, PG, and PG-13 rated movies that directly relate to the English 1-2 curriculum. Please list below any ratings that your child may not watch.

Parent/Guardian Signature:

_____ **Date** _____

As part of taking this Advanced Placement (AP) class, students will be required to set up an online account with the College Board (the company that oversees the AP Program), if they don't already have one. With a College Board account, students can access AP curriculum supports, SAT and AP scores, and send them to colleges. Additionally, an account lets students manage personal college lists, save scholarship searches, compare costs at colleges of interest, and more. When setting up the account, students will need to use a personal email address in order to have access to the account long term, since their WCSD email address will no longer be active after the student graduates. They will also need to supply the College Board with identifying information such as full name, email address, high school name, year of graduation, and home address. You can access the College Board Terms and Conditions here: <https://about.collegeboard.org/site-terms> and their Privacy Policy here: <https://about.collegeboard.org/privacy-policy>. By signing below, I acknowledge the foregoing account requirements and consent to my student registering for an online account with the College Board using the foregoing required information.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at amustard@washoeschools.net . I usually will get back to you within one business day.

ETHICS POLICY: MCQUEEN HIGH SCHOOL

The administration, faculty, and staff at McQueen High School are committed to providing the highest quality educational experience for all students. To ensure that quality learning is on-going, the following ethics policy is in effect regarding plagiarism and cheating. This includes everything from the written word to artistic images and everything in between. It is allowable to use material created by others as long as it is properly cited. Plagiarism and/or cheating are demonstrated by students:

- Copying each other's homework
- Working on assignments together without the knowledge of the teacher
- Obtaining information/answers to exams prior to the administration of the exam
- Stealing materials related to classroom instruction
- Using "cheat" sheets
- Looking at another student's paper
- Making gestures or talking during the administering of a test
- Texting or using other technology inappropriately

The Internet presents its own set of unique challenges. McQueen High School encourages the use of the Internet to better help students research and learn all aspects of the curriculum. However, the Internet **MUST** be cited just like any other source. Teachers must be able to access the websites cited to check accuracy and other related issues.

These issues are important to us because school is for learning academics, ethics, character, and responsibility. Our job is to make sure that students understand what plagiarism and cheating are and to not tolerate either being used at McQueen High School.

Students who plan on going on to higher education will find that plagiarism and cheating are never acceptable and can result in expulsion. In the workplace, if a person passes off someone else's work as his/her own, the job will be lost and a lawsuit is the probable outcome.

CONSEQUENCES FOR ETHICS VIOLATION

The following are progressive consequences that will occur if the practices of this policy are broken. It is understood that the consequences will be based on a case by case basis after a teacher/administrator consultation.

- An "F" on the assignment
- No make-up assignment
- Teacher can choose to lower citizenship grade

This contract will be kept on file at McQueen High School

<p>Student Name (printed): _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p>	<p>Parent Name (printed): _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p>
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Students will be required to have their cell phones and personal electronics in the off position during class time. This is to ensure there are fewer distractions, less theft of devices, and full engagement of students during ALL class time. In case of emergencies, and/or the need to speak with your child during class hours, parents may contact the school and hit zero for the operator. Please read carefully as the consequences have changed.

- All cell phones and personal electronics will be required to be turned off.
- All other electronic devices including but not limited to: Smart Watches, CD Players, MP3 players, IPODS, Phones, Game Boy, Cameras, Laser Pointers, must be turned off and not utilized during class time. Students may not use electronic devices going to and from the restroom, library, office, etc. during class time.
- Headphones may not be out and visible at any time during class.
- No external speakers may be used to play music through the halls.

Technology violations progressive discipline plan will be followed:

First Offense

- Parent notified.
- Item will be confiscated and student may pick it up at the end of the day.
- Student assigned two reflection activities.

Second Offense

- Parent notified
- Item will be confiscated and parent will be required to pick up electronic item.
- Student assigned four reflection activities.

Third Offense

- Parent notified
- Item will be confiscated and parent will be required to pick up electronic item.
- Student assigned two hours school beautification.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____