

## **College English A Syllabus** **Mrs. Glerum**

### **Course Objectives:**

- To help students write clear, focused, coherent and effective expository essays.
- To master writing techniques by practicing the stages of the writing process.
- To develop skills in using the library and other resources, incorporating borrowed materials into personal work and providing documentation from sources cited using MLA format.
- To review grammar rules as they apply to the writing process, observing how modern grammatical structure works in real writing.
- To help students improve their communication skills, both written and oral.
- To help students react critically to classical and contemporary literature.
- To encourage students' interests in community involvement and current social issues.

### **Course Requirements:**

1. No late assignments will be accepted for points. No assignments will be accepted on the day of the final exam.
2. Reading
  - Novels: Students will read a novel of their choice that will be analyzed, discussed and over which they will have a written test. The class will choose a novel from the following:  
*Their Eyes Were Watching God*                      *The Color Purple*  
*Song of Solomon*    *The Poisonwood Bible*
  - Textbooks: In addition to the novels, short stories found online will be used as will literature from *Literature: Reading Fiction, Poetry, and Drama* (6<sup>th</sup> edition, DiYanni) and writing instruction/essays from *The Bedford Reader* (13<sup>th</sup> edition, Kennedy et. al.).
3. Writing
  - Essays: There will be two types of essays completed this trimester
    - (1) Narrative Essay
    - (2) Process Analysis Essay
  - Informal writing: Students will also encounter the following forms of informal writing; most types of informal writing are ungraded but are used for peer evaluations and work with the instructor.
    - (1) Free writing
    - (2) Journal writing
    - (3) Rough drafts

### **Classroom Rules:**

1. Respect others and their property.
2. Keep all comments positive within the classroom. This means comments regarding people, ideas, materials, assignments, EVERYTHING!
3. Time given in class for work must be used to complete English work; it may not be used for other homework until the English assignment is completed.
4. Only water bottles are permitted at your desk. Other drinks must be kept on the filing cabinet, away from the Chromebooks.
5. Chromebooks will be used frequently. You are responsible for following the guidelines in the Chromebook handbook, and Hapara will be used to monitor their use during class.

### **Grading Policy:**

1. All grading is done on a point system. Points are earned from the various activities that students complete, and the marking period grade will be based on the points they earn out of the total number of points possible.
2. Some rough drafts and in-class assignments may not earn points as they are preparation for future work that will count for points. Completion of such activities is still required as class participation.

3. The final grade for this course will be determined using the breakdown below. Points will accumulate as the trimester goes along, with one trimester grade being given at the end of the course. This is a CUMULATIVE course! Your scores from the first marking period will be carried over to the final marking period.

Writing.....	40%	Homework & Participation.....	10%
Tests & Quizzes.....	30%	Final Exam/Project.....	20%

Grades will be based on the following percentages:

100 – 94.....	A	82 – 80.....	B-	69 - 67.....	D+
93 - 90.....	A-	79 - 77.....	C+	66 - 63.....	D
89 - 87.....	B+	76 - 73.....	C	62 - 60.....	D-
86 - 83.....	B	72 - 70.....	C-	59 - 0.....	F

**Academic Honesty:**

**Academic honesty is expected at all times.** The first instance of Academic Dishonesty (cheating or plagiarism) will result in a zero on the assignment with no opportunity of replacing the grade. **The second offense will result in loss of credit for the course.**

Cheating and plagiarism are defined as follows:

**CHEATING:** Involves trickery or fraud and occurs when one uses and takes credit for work of another person, whether the material is directly copied or superficially disguised. It also includes divulging the contents of a graded evaluation. Finally, cheating involves the use or attempted use, giving or attempting to give, and obtaining or attempting to obtain materials or information, including computer material, pertaining to an assignment, quiz, examination or other work that a student is expected to do alone.

**PLAGIARISM:** Using another's words or ideas by summarizing, paraphrasing, or directly quoting without acknowledgment.

**Contacting the Instructor:**

1. Voice mail: (231) 861-4452 ext. 4111
2. E-mail: [glerjs@hs.shelby.k12.mi.us](mailto:glerjs@hs.shelby.k12.mi.us)

I will respond to your message within 48 hours, so do NOT wait until the last minute to ask a question. The goal of this class is to teach you to become an independent learner, so "hand-holding" will be kept to a minimum. NO e-mail will be answered between 7:00pm and 7:00am or on Saturdays as that time is reserved for my family.

3. Office hours: 2<sup>nd</sup> block, except Tuesdays. You may request an appointment during TAG or during my office hours. In order to receive assistance during office hours, please schedule an appointment at least 24 hours in advance.