

Syllabus for Junior English – Grade 11- (American Literature)

Mr. Perez Room 410

mperez@fwps.org (253) 945-5484

Overview:

This level includes the chronological study of American Literature. Writing focuses on various methods of development-description, narration, argumentation and exposition- and on literary analysis. In addition, creative and technical writing are integrated into the curriculum. Oral communication, language study and vocabulary development are important parts of the program. The course has an overshadowing theme throughout the quarters of the year beginning with nonfiction, fiction, poetry/music, and drama.

Goals/Outcomes:

Throughout the year this course will cover all of the Washington State Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs) for reading, writing and oral communication in English. A few primary standards covered throughout the course are:

Reading:

1. The student understands and uses different skills and strategies to read.
2. The student understands the meaning of what is read.
3. The student reads different materials for a variety of purposes.
4. The student sets goals and evaluates progress to improve reading.

Writing:

1. The student understands and uses a writing process.
2. The student writes in a variety of forms for different audiences and purposes.
3. The student writes clearly and effectively.
4. The student analyzes and evaluates the effectiveness of written work.

Communication:

1. The student uses listening and observation skills and strategies to gain understanding.
2. The student uses communication skills and strategies to interact/work effectively with others.
3. The student uses communication skills and strategies to present ideas and one's self in a variety of situations.
4. The student analyzes and evaluates the effectiveness of communication.

Rough Course Outline:

Semester1: The Colonial Era, The Revolutionary Period, The New England Renaissance and Romanticism.

Semester2: The Rise of Realism, The Modern Age, And The Harlem Renaissance

*This outline may change due to class progress, class interest, district schedule or simply if Mr. Perez has interest of covering an alternative topic.

Films

Films shown in class will adhere to the policies of the Federal Way School District. A permission slip signed by the parent will be necessary to view each film, or an alternate assignment will be given. The following films may be shown throughout the year (to be determined by progress of class).

- ❑ 'Rip Van Winkle' Director: Will Vinton. Short story animation. 1978.
- ❑ An Evening with Edgar Allen Poe (Biography, including several of his short stories: The Raven, The Tell Tale Heart, The Pit and the Pendulum). Monterey Video. 2000.
- ❑ The Harlem Renaissance documentary
- ❑ Satchmo, Louis Armstrong. Masters of American Music Series. CBS. 1989

Books

We will read a wide variety of literature in this course, including books chosen from the district approved book list. An alternative text may be given with teacher and parent permission. This alternative text is given in the case of valid parental objections to the text assigned in class.

Attendance:

Your attendance may in fact affect your grade. If you are not present (physically or mentally) you will not have the opportunity to do: in class assignments, group work, participate in discussions or hear the necessary information you need to succeed in this class. It is in my experience that absent students rarely find out what information or assignments they may have missed. Due to this, a student's absence may have a direct effect on their grade.

Materials Needed:

- 3- ring binder- 2"
- Section dividers (you can also make your own)
- Writing Utensils (pen: blue or black, pencil- no colored pens or pencils or those glittery types).
- PAPER- lots of paper.
- A novel of your choice – **every day!** Failure to possess a novel on any given day will result in the deduction of points from your grade.

Grading policy

Types of assignments are not weighted in this class. Each assignment is given an amount of points. Calculation of grades is accomplished by adding total number of points and dividing by total points possible. I feel that this is the fairest way to calculate grades. My rationale for this is aid those students that are bad test takers etc. If tests were worth 40% of the overall grade and a student had difficulty taking tests then they would have a hard time getting a good grade. Therefore, points are added straight across.

Grades are based on the following scale:

100-90=A

89-80=B

79-70=C

69-60=D

59 and below=F

**Percentages are rounded up. Example: 59.5 or higher = 60.*

Reminder! At Federal Way High School a 'D' grade is not considered passing.

Late work:

I do not accept late work unless:

If students have an **EXCUSED** absence, they have one day to make up the late work. That means if a student is absent on a Monday, they return on a Tuesday, the work missed on Monday is due on Wednesday.

If students have an **UNEXCUSED** absence, no late work or make up work will be accepted. In other words, students can not make up missed work for an unexcused absence.

Extra Credit:

There are various extra credit possibilities in class. Ask Mr. Perez for the assignment sheet. There will also be possibilities in class during the year. (For example: a student who attends Mr. Perez's class every day for an entire semester receives extra credit points. Furthermore, students who complete every assignment for a semester will receive extra credit).

I believe I am an easy grader. Therefore, if you show **hard work, effort, responsibility to get work in on time, discipline and good behavior**; if you hand in partial work on an assignment I will be more inclined to be gracious on scoring the work. I do possess the ability to detect work done the night before or morning of a due date; this type of work will be graded harder. If I set aside class time for a major

project and I notice students wasting that time, those students' work will be graded harder. Bottom line is that I do not like to give ZERO points- but will if nothing is handed in or if the effort on an assignment is below your ability.

**Federal Way High School
Attendance Policy 2007-2008**

We know "regular attendance has a direct effect on the academic progress of the students and the development of good habits which will aid students as they move into the world beyond the district." Taking into account the Federal Way Public Schools' Attendance Policy (Policy 3120) and the Federal Way Public Schools' Attendance Procedure (Procedure 3120P), our staff members condensed the Attendance Policy and Procedure into the following important points:

1. A student is responsible for arriving on time and being prepared to learn in every class.
2. A student is responsible for clearing their excused absences with the attendance secretary within two school business days. Bring your note to Mrs. Shelby at the Attendance window located across from the main office.
3. A student whose absence is excused is responsible for making up the assignments/activities/ and the attendance/participation portion of the grade missed during the absence in the manner provided by the teacher.
4. A student whose absence is unexcused may **NOT** be given the opportunity to receive credit for a graded activity/assignment that is due during the time when the student is absent.
5. A student whose absence is unexcused will be responsible for making up the time missed in a manner determined by the school. Examples of such discipline may include, but are not limited to: after school detention, ISS, and exclusion from an activity conducted by the school other than actual class time*.

Every teacher will attempt to contact the student's parents/guardians after the 4th, 8th, and 12th absence. Every teacher will fill out a record of the phone call on the Attendance Phone Log.

Advisory teachers will be responsible for assigning initial consequences for unexcused absences and subsequent referrals to administration for continued unexcused absences in all of the student's classes.

1st and 2nd unexcused absence- Detention

3rd and 4th unexcused absence- Detention, ISS or Saturday School

5th or more unexcused absence- Progressive discipline including potential Out of School Suspension for Insubordination

Students with continued absences will be "Becca Billed" according to state law.

Students with 12 or more absences (**NOT INCLUDING SCHOOL RELATED**) will be required to meet with an "attendance appeal board" along with their parents/guardians.

*Activities students can be excluded from include, but are not limited to: assemblies, club meetings, dances, and sporting events.

A Discipline Policy for Mr. Perez's Class

Classroom Rules:

Discipline, Respect, Responsibility

1. Respect other student's comments, opinions, and ideas.
2. Do not show disrespect with gestures or forms of any kind.
3. Surprise others by performing random acts of kindness.
4. Follow along when we read together in class.
5. No swearing.
6. No sleeping.
7. No cell phones/IPODs (ringing or visual)- No electronic devices. Policy adheres to FWPS policy on electronic devices.
8. No card games.
9. Give effort in class participation, assignments and attendance.
10. Learn from your mistakes and move on.

If you choose to break a rule:

First offense- You were careless: a warning.

Second offense- I am disappointed- Depending on the severity of the offense:

- Lunch detention
- After school detention
- Refer to class rule #10

Third offense- You have not learned from your mistake therefore:

- Discussion of action plan
- A call home to parents
- Counselor made aware of the problem
- Detention

Fourth offense- This is considered a Severe Disruption

- Call home
- Counselor made aware of the problem
- Security called to escort you to the Vice Principal
- Detention/Suspension

**We begin a 'new day' everyday, so I hope you will think about your infraction and make every effort to have a better NEW DAY.*

STUDENTS: I have read this classroom discipline policy, syllabus, grading policy, classroom rules and understand it. I will honor it while in Mr. Perez's class.

Signature

Date

PARENTS: My child has discussed the classroom discipline policy, syllabus, grading policy, classroom rules with me. I understand it and I will support it.

Signature

Date