

English II Honors

		Description of Common Requirements							
<p>Main Topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novel • Short Story • Poetry • Non-fiction essay • Drama (Shakespeare) • Argumentative Writing • Informative Writing • Expressive Writing 	<p>Rationale</p> <p>This is a capstone course in literature and writing as vehicles for expressing the fundamental ideas and values of a society. Students explore the histories and cultures associated with selected texts and how the writing reflects author's purpose. The emphasis of the course is on close reading for purpose and effect and on the mastery of standard English for practical use. Students develop writing skills addressing several modes and methods, including expository, argumentative, personal, and academic, to develop an appreciation and understanding of each.</p>	<p>Reading</p> <p>Students will complete assigned sections of larger works consisting of approximately 15 to 20 pages per night.</p> <p>Students are responsible for additional shorter readings throughout to supplement the major texts.</p> <p>Students will prepare for testing situations by learning to recognize and respond to the various question stems targeted at standards assessed by the FSA.</p>	<p>Writing</p> <p>Students will write approximately 10 to 15 pieces of formal, text-based writing in response to given prompts. Included in the writing samples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of literature or character • Writing styles that are audience and format appropriate • Modeling existing pieces of writing • Argumentative and Informative Essays • Research using MLA formatting • FSA on-demand writing 						
<p>Grade Composition</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Classwork and homework</td> <td style="width: 40%;">30*/40%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tests and quizzes</td> <td>30%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Formal and informal writing</td> <td>30%</td> </tr> </table> <p>*In the first quarter, there is an additional "Summer Reading" category counting for 10% of the total grade.</p>	Classwork and homework	30*/40%	Tests and quizzes	30%	Formal and informal writing	30%	<p>Skill Development</p> <p>Students will learn to identify literary techniques including detail, imagery, diction, point of view, tone, mood, and syntax, and explain their effects on themes and texts.</p> <p>Students will practice grammar usage and mechanics of standard English.</p> <p>Students will be able to show understanding and application of text using a variety of reading comprehension assessment tools.</p> <p>Students will develop a clear and concise ability to express a full range of ideas through writing in a variety of modes.</p> <p>Students will develop logical approaches to building and sustaining academic reasoning and learn to express that logic clearly.</p>	<p>Sample Textbook Excerpt: <i>Things Fall Apart</i>, Chinua Achebe</p> <p>Okonkwo was well known throughout the nine villages and even beyond. His fame rested on solid personal achievements. As a young man of eighteen he had brought honor to his village by throwing Amalinze the Cat. Amalinze was the great wrestler who for seven years was unbeaten, from Umuofia to Mbaino. He was called the Cat because his back would never touch the earth.</p> <p>It was this man that Okonkwo threw in a fight which the old men agreed was one of the fiercest since the founder of their town engaged a spirit of the wild for seven days and seven nights. The drums beat and the flutes sang and the spectators held their breath. Amalinze was a wily craftsman, but Okonkwo was as slippery as a fish in water.</p> <p>Every nerve and every muscle stood out on their arms, on their backs and their thighs, and one almost heard them stretching to breaking point. In the end, Okonkwo threw the Cat. That was many years ago, twenty years or more, and during this time Okonkwo's fame had grown like a bush-fire in the harmattan. He was tall and huge, and his bushy eyebrows and wide nose gave him a very severe look.</p>	
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<p>Student Expectations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organization and time management • Focus and work ethic • Receptiveness and communication • Daily computer access availability (either on campus or at home) 									