

# 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors English

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“Go into the world and do well. But more importantly, go into the world and do good.” ~Minor Myers Jr.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

Good organizational skills are imperative for success in this class and beyond. You will need a one or two inch binder with college-ruled loose-leaf for use in this class exclusively. **Do not** combine your English materials with those from other classes. All of the papers you receive in this class will be hole-punched ahead of time, so it should be very easy for you to keep your binder organized and in chronological order. You are also expected to come to class daily with a sharpened pencil, a blue or black pen, the literature under study, a positive attitude, and an open mind.

## GRADING

All assignments will be graded using a point-based system. All in-class assignments, homework, tests, quizzes, and projects will be assigned specific point amounts. Additionally, part of my job as a teacher is to come to class prepared to teach just as part of your job as a student is to come to class prepared to learn. Show up to class on time, with class materials in hand, ready to work. It is impossible to discuss anything, let alone literature, without proper preparation. Your class preparation is worth a quiz grade for the semester and is based upon a point deduction system.

## LATE WORK POLICY

In this class, assignments are due the day that they are due. *All major assignments (papers, projects, etc.) will be deducted one full letter grade for each day they are late and will not be accepted after 5 days.* ***If you are sick or absent from school on the day a paper or project is due, give a copy to a friend for submission and/or e-mail it to me as a separate attachment.*** If you are absent from school the day a major assignment is due, with the exception of tests, and I do not receive your assignment by 2:30 pm, you will be subject to the late work policy. If you are in school and do not hand in a major assignment, you are also subject to the late work policy and I will contact a parent or guardian.

## MAKE-UP WORK POLICY

You and you alone are responsible for making up any missed work. Please do not expect that I will be able to “just fill you in” on an entire day’s lesson in the first few minutes of class. From home, you can access the class website for information regarding the work you missed. Additionally, the clipboard for your class will have your name on it the day you return to class and will contain the materials and handouts you missed. Please review the materials and if you have questions, see me either before or after school. You will have two days to make up missed assignments and **you will only have one week to make up any missed in-class evaluations (tests, quizzes, etc.) No exceptions. “I did not know” is not an excuse.** You may come before or after school to make up the missed quiz or test. Make sure to see me well in advance for planned absences (especially if your planned absence coincides with a major evaluation). Frequent absences will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. ***Please note that assignments cannot be made up if the absence is unexcused.***

## FORMAL PAPERS

All formal papers must adhere to the following MLA format: typed, double-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font with one inch margins. Papers that do not adhere to these guidelines will be returned ungraded and will then be subject to the late work policy. Additionally, **ALL** rough and final drafts must be submitted through turnitin.com. A paper must be submitted to turnitin.com on the assigned due date to avoid a penalty.

Turnitin.com Information:  
Class ID #: 3420990  
Class Password: olesen

## **RE-WRITING A PAPER**

All students have the opportunity to revise and re-submit formal papers. Students have one week from the time a paper is returned to make revisions and hand the paper back in. Students must hand in the original paper, and the revised paper must attend to each and every comment addressed on the original paper. New grades will be calculated by averaging the two grades together.

## **PLAGIARISM**

If a student is caught cheating (copying answers and/or allowing others to copy their answers) or if turnitin.com reports plagiarized material, the student will receive a zero on the assignment and will not have the opportunity to do the assignment over. All incidents of cheating and/or plagiarism will be dealt with per the STHS policy outlined in the STHS handbook.

## **RULES**

In addition to all STHS rules, please observe the following guidelines while in class:

1. Be in your seat and ready to work when the bell rings to signal the start of class.
2. Treat everyone, including yourself, with respect and dignity by using appropriate language, refraining from side conversations, and refraining from moving around the room during direct instruction and discussions.
3. I have a no tolerance policy when it comes to respecting others' ideas and opinions. You will not, be it through words, facial expressions, or body language, put down or mock another student.
4. This is a no whining zone. Self-explanatory.

## **CELL PHONE POLICY**

Although the use of cell phones is prohibited as a school rule and should not need to be addressed in the classroom, I would like to make you aware of the consequences if you are caught using a cell phone in my class:

First Offense: I will take your cell phone from you and return it at the end of the class period.

Second Offense: I will take your cell phone from you, turn it in to Mr. Puckett, and you may pick it up in his office at the end of the school day.

Bottom line: A classroom with no cell phones is a happy classroom.

## **EXPECTATIONS**

As a teacher, I have very high expectations of myself. I expect that I come to class prepared, with back-up plans for back-up plans, every day. I expect that I treat every student fairly and with respect, as well as find ways to tailor lessons so that the needs of each student are being met. I expect that I come up with plans that engage you and challenge the way you think about the literature, yourselves, and the world. I expect that I come to class with a smile for everyone and to have fun. Since I have such high expectations for myself, I also have high expectations for you. They are the three positives: Positive attitude, positive participation, and positively prepared. You will get out of this class as much as you put into it. The more active you are in class, the more I can plan and the more you and your fellow peers can learn.

## **TEACHER AVAILABILITY**

I am available before and after school daily for extra help. I am also available during my lunch period. Students are encouraged to seek extra help. Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me with any questions or concerns. The class website is an essential tool for student and parent information, including calendars and homework schedules, so please check it frequently.

## **FINAL THOUGHTS**

D. Blocher once said, "Learning is not a spectator sport." Remembering that will serve you well in this class. Here's to a great year as we think, learn, and grow together!