

# English 11 Syllabus & Procedures Mrs. Vasko & Mrs. Keller, Room 116

*"Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it" - Charles R. Swindoll*

## Course Description

In this course students will study American Literature with a sequential development of composition skills. The course covers poetry, the short story, the essay, and novels. The material ranges from the Puritan Period through the beginnings of Realism and Naturalism and the Modern Period. Students will be introduced to contemporary literature, which reflects the current attitudes, mores, and philosophies relevant to society today. A composition strand will generate fully documented themes, which require research for completion.

## Scope and Sequence

Units covered within the course, in no particular order include: The American Legacy, American Relationships, The American Dream, The Great American Novel, America in Darkness, American Society, American Life Lessons, and Universal Lessons.

## Participation

In order to make this class enjoyable for us all, Mrs. Keller and I will need your cooperation and participation in class discussions. Attending class on a daily basis surely will help promote a positive environment and is a necessity toward concluding your junior year. We welcome your opinions on the interpretation of our readings and believe your views are important and worth hearing. Please censure your comments and dialog for both school appropriateness and constructive criticism. Participation will be heavily valued and count toward a portion of your grade. **Remember: You must READ the literary selections in order to have an understanding of the lecture and discussion. In almost every aspect of life, whether it is a newspaper, a magazine, or an Internet website, you will need to read. Knowing how to decipher what is important and pull out the necessary information will be crucial to being successful in the choices you make throughout your life. 😊**

In addition, please respect the following **BRAVE standards of behavior**:

Be safe: Listen to staff and maintain personal space.

Respect others: Be on time, be polite, and use appropriate language and tone.

Be accountable: Be prepared, be honest, do your own work, use electronic devices only when permitted.

Be victorious: Do your best work and celebrate academic success.

Be enthusiastic: Have a positive attitude and take ownership of learning.

Please also keep in mind the following rules regarding our **departmental academic integrity**:

- \* Accurately cite all sources
- \* Accurately represent your sources
- \* Read all assigned readings to assure accuracy
- \* Do not copy another person's work
- \* Do not give your work to others
- \* Proofread your work to assure accuracy
- \* Include a list of works cited for all compositions
- \* Do not download a composition from the Internet
- \* Do not make up quotes that are not in the text you have read
- \* Do not write a paper for one course and turn in the same paper for another course

## Required Materials

It is a sign of maturity to be prepared for class. The following items are required on a daily basis: potential daily iPad use so make sure it is charged, pen and/or pencil, a two-pocket folder, and assigned novel or textbook (depending on unit being covered). Mrs. Vasko will be using a one-way only Remind account so please sign up for these reminders using the handout to be provided within the first days of class as well as the Canvas LMS.

## Proofreading/Editing Rule

Formal writing rules will be the focus of the course. When turning in any documentation it will be the class rule to eliminate all contractions in your writing AND to eliminate all use of the pronoun "**YOU**" as well as colloquialism and slang expressions that convey an informal tone. Points will be deducted when used so please make sure to proofread/edit prior to turning in any documentation.

## Assignments/Makeup

All writing assignments should be completed in MLA style format unless otherwise stated. Attending field trips, sporting events, and other school-related absences will not excuse you from turning in assignments on time. It is your responsibility to determine what work was missed when absent from class. Most all documents will be stored on Canvas. For an explanation of any missed assignments, see Mrs. Keller or myself at a convenient time that does NOT interfere with class. Obtaining work that is missed is the sole responsibility of the student.

## Assessments

A variety of student assessments will be used throughout the course. Evaluations will consist of tests/quizzes, reading comprehension quizzes, oral readings and interpretations, numerous written submissions (analytical and creative), classwork, homework, projects, and participation. Tests will be announced in class and listed via Canvas prior to the expected test date. Every effort should be given to make up these items during a study hall, or during lunch. Should you choose to take these items during class, classroom activities will continue and you will still be responsible for the current day's work.

## Late Work Policy:

- Work assigned on the day a student is absent must be made up by the number of days absent.
- Assignments due on an excused absence day are due promptly upon your return.
- **Homework turned in one day late will receive half credit. No work will be accepted more than five days late for any credit. This bullet will be strictly abided by!!!!**
- **Multiple Day Projects with a due date given will receive no additional days outside of class if absent. Budget accordingly and make prior arrangements with Mrs. Vasko if missing class due to Steel Center commitments. This bullet will also be strictly abided by!!!!**
- If you are present during any part of the day, it is your responsibility to turn in homework to Room 116.
- Days missed during the preparation of the research paper will not be given as "add-on" days to the due date determined for the research paper. Any extensions of time for extenuating circumstances will need to be approved in advance with Mrs. Vasko
- No credit will be awarded for any unexcused absence per school district policy.

## Grading Policy

All grades will be based on total points accumulated from the above requirements and on the school district's grading scale for a year long course as described in the program of studies.

## Instructors' Message

Students, we welcome opportunities to help you throughout the course and encourage you to make appointments to see us if you are experiencing difficulty at any time. Please feel free to email Mrs. Vasko at [kvasko@efsd.net](mailto:kvasko@efsd.net) or Mrs. Keller at [dkeller@efsd.net](mailto:dkeller@efsd.net) if needed.

**\*\*Any portion of this syllabus is subject to change by the teachers based on the needs of the course and class.**

