



Pacific High School

Welcome to English 1 Honors Course Syllabus 2008-2009



Instructor: Mrs. Laura (Martinez) Booker

Period: 5

Text: English 9 Textbook

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Course Description: Welcome to English 1 Honors! I look forward to a wonderful school year. This is an advanced course in the study and appreciation of literature. It is designed to expand your critical thinking, critical reading, and analytical writing skills as well as improve your command of the English language, both written and spoken. It is a demanding, fast-paced course that represents a serious time commitment and dedication; therefore, I ask that students come to class prepared and ready to help in discussions and activities.

Readings

During this course we will be studying and examining the following works of literature in great detail:

Selected short stories

Of Mice and Men – John Steinbeck

Odysseus – Homer

Cisneros

Romeo and Juliet – William

Shakespeare

Selected Poetry

Assignments:

Throughout the year students can expect...

1. Daily reading and Reading Logs (students will be required to read a novel outside of class.)
2. Accelerated Reading Quizzes on the novel they are reading for homework.
3. Daily homework. Homework usually consists of reading literature, writing about literature, revising your work, and creating projects. Do not fall behind in either your short-term or long-term assignments, since your grade will suffer.
4. Analytical discussions, writing assignments, group activities, and oral presentations.
5. Reading quizzes on novels and/or literature studied or read in class.
6. Unit tests and/or projects.
7. Maintaining a writing portfolio which they will periodically review.
8. Creating a research paper using MLA format and parenthetical citations.
9. Students will be working on group projects, which they will present to the class upon completion.

Plagiarism

Plagiarize – (v.) 1. To use and pass off as one’s own (the ideas or writings of another). 2. To appropriate for use as one’s own passages or ideas from (another).

-The American Heritage College Dictionary, 3rd ed.

Attendance:

As your teacher, I make a commitment to you to work hard in preparing meaningful units, assignments, and activities designed to allow you to get the most benefit from this class. However, in order to achieve the goals set for you (and that you have set for yourselves), you must make certain commitments to yourselves. Appropriate expectations of you include the following:

1. Be in your desk with supplies (notebook, texts, outside reading book, composition book, paper, and pen) and be ready to work when the second bell rings. A tardy will result in a detention.
2. Take notes each day, even when not prompted by the teacher. Keep these notes and all handouts organized in your folder for the entire school year.
3. Leave the room neat.
4. Comply with all school rules including not having food, drink, headphones, cell phones or cosmetics in class. This is not beauty school.
5. Come to class prepared to participate in our class discussions. This will be part of your grade. In order to effectively participate in these discussions, it is crucial that you remain up to speed on any assigned reading and come to class with initial insights prepared.

Discipline:

First offense:	Warning
Second offense:	Detention/Low-Level Referral
Third offense:	Call Home /Low-Level Referral
Fourth offense:	High-Level Referral
Fifth offense:	High-Level Referral/Possible Suspension

In the event of serious classroom misbehavior (willful defiance, fighting, cheating, stealing, racial/ethnic slurs, etc.), the student is referred to school administration. It is my policy that any student found using the computers inappropriately (using the internet, download music, listening to music) will receive an automatic high-level referral and the student’s parents must be contacted.

Make-up Work:

If you have an EXCUSED absence, you are responsible for checking the class notebook **and** meeting with me **ON THE DAY YOU RETURN** to find out what you missed. Students will have the same number of days to make up work as they are absent, unless **PRIOR** arrangements are made. Some reading quizzes cannot be made up for credit, so an alternative assignment may be given instead. Late work will only be accepted if the student has an excused absence.

Grades:

Each assignment will be worth points based on the complexity of the assignment. For instance, a quiz may be worth 20 points whereas a three-week project may be worth 200 points. Your overall grade will break down as follows:

Participation=10% Homework/Classwork=20% Quizzes/Tests=30% Projects/Essays=40%