

Sheryl L. Miller Hosey
English Department
Council Rock High School South
Semester English 12 Syllabus (2018)

In this class you will be constantly working on marketable skills of writing, reading, and higher-order thinking, as well as developing strategies for decision making, time management and studying. By working together I hope this can be the best English class you've ever had. Beyond that, I hope to help you develop your success as a student and as an individual.

A note to your parents from administration: Council Rock School District strongly encourages parents to survey the outstanding collection of challenging literature contained within our program. Much of the content presents important and complex ideas that encourage critical thinking. Any connection discussed in class is made that much stronger by the conversation and connections that are made at home. We invite you to discuss any of the elements of our courses with your child's teacher.

Do not seek perfection, for you will surely fail; rather, seek to better yourself each day.
I am here to help you achieve your best.

Curriculum

I reserve the right to alter this slightly according to class needs and requirements.

Literature

"Metamorphosis" Kafka

Macbeth Shakespeare

Short stories (non-American authors)

Composition

- A. Critical Research Paper
- B. Expository essays (In-class and out-of-class)
- C. Personal/narrative essays
 - 1. College essay
 - 2. One or two others
- D. Creative writing (optional)

Vocabulary

Vocabulary Level G (8 units). There will usually be a bi-weekly vocabulary quiz. Vocabulary will be reinforced through composition. You can earn bonus points for finding your vocabulary words in your daily reading (school assignments, books, newspapers, magazines, etc.) Each sentence you find with a vocabulary word in it must be either copied by hand or photocopied; the name of the author and source must be recorded. I will periodically ask you for your list of vocabulary words found in outside sources and record your bonus points. There is a limit of fifteen bonus points for this activity per marking period.

Grammar

Grammar emphasis is on usage and mechanics. We shall review several sections of the textbook and relate them to our writing assignments.

Guidelines for Success

What you will need every day:

1. Notebook(s) in which you can take notes, keep handouts, etc.
2. A pen or pencil and paper.
3. Textbooks: I will tell you what to bring for the next class or you may check the Web site.
4. A cooperative attitude

What you should do:

1. Complete all assignments and turn them in on time.
2. Write down in your notes anything I put on the board or on the white board.
3. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make up all of your work. You are to check the Web site for assignments and what we did while you were gone and ask your classmates for further information and interpretation of notes and assignments. Come to me only as a last resort for this type of information. You have five school days from the due date of the assignment to make up work missed while you were absent. An exception to this is vocabulary quizzes, which are given each Friday. If you are present on Friday, regardless of whether you were out during that week, you will be expected to take the quiz. Also excluded from this rule is the research paper, which is due on the date regardless of illness (more information will follow). Serious long-term illness will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
4. If you are having difficulty in this class, it is your responsibility to seek help. I am available Tuesday through Friday after school in room 280 until 3 PM, unless otherwise noted on the board; I have a CARES meeting each Monday. If it is cancelled, I will add the day to the board. You can also request an appointment at another time if you need it. You can e-mail me at any time (mh@millerhosey.com). I usually respond to e-mail Monday through Friday up to 11 PM; I have no set times during the weekend, but I will get back to you as soon as possible. Check my Web site www.millerhosey.com for other help.
5. Participate in class. There will be many opportunities to respond to writing and reading in the class. Take advantage of this. I am very observant. I will know if you are not engaged. Pay attention. Listen. Learn.

Grading:

Grades will be based on points earned. All points earned for tests, quizzes, blue book exams, writing assignments, and homework will be added to together for the marking period. Any bonus points earned will then be added to your total. The points earned versus the total points possible will determine your grade. **I do not round up; please do not ask.** I offer many opportunities for earning extra points. Take advantage of this whenever possible.

A+ =	97-100		
A =	93-96	C =	73-77
A- =	90-92	C- =	70-72
B+ =	88-89	D+ =	68-69
B =	83-87	D =	63-67
B- =	80-82	D- =	60-62
C+ =	78-79	F =	59 and below

Rules:

1. **All South and school district rules will be followed in this class.**
2. If you bring food/drink to class, clean up after yourself.
3. Be in your seat and ready to begin when the bell rings. All late arrivals will be recorded; you get two “free” lates each marking period (within one minute of the bell). The third and subsequent late arrivals will result in detentions. If you are late but have a pass, come in quickly and quietly, and give me your late pass.
4. All materials from other classes must be put away. I am very sensitive about this; I work very hard to make the class interesting and fun while we learn, and I refuse to be ignored while you are doing other work. All materials for this class should be out and/or readily available.
5. NO TEXTING during class. If there is a personal emergency, please let me know.
6. Cheating will not be tolerated. Many efforts will be made to thwart any attempts; do not try your luck. Penalties will be swift and severe.
7. Be polite. It will get you much farther in life than being rude.