

English 3-4
Mrs. Amanda Williams ~ Room A205

Course Description: In this course, students will read, analyze, and discuss a wide variety of American and world literature, focusing on short stories, novels, and nonfiction works. Students will also have the chance to do individualized reading during the year. In addition, argumentative and expository writing assignments, role playing, projects, presentations, outside reading, vocabulary, and grammar will be a part of this class.

Iowa Core Standards:

Standard 1: Reading Strand – Literature

Students will effectively comprehend, analyze, evaluate, and create using a diverse range of appropriately complex print materials.

Standard 2: Reading Strand – Informational Text

Students will effectively comprehend, analyze, evaluate, and create using a diverse range of appropriately complex print materials.

Standard 3: Writing

Students will routinely write to learn and to communicate for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Standard 4: Speaking and Listening

Students will participate effectively in a range of rich, structured conversations, collaborations, and presentations.

Standard 5: Language

Students will apply knowledge of the English language and its conventions when reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Assessments:

- Study guides
- Reading quizzes
- Journals
- Class discussions/"Socratic Circles"
- Projects and presentations
- Various formal writing assignments
- Quizzes and Unit Tests
- Semester Exams

Content:

- Short stories, novels, poetry, nonfiction, grammar/writing

Instructional Strategies:

- Small and Large Group Discussions
- Projects and Presentations/Technological Support
- Grammar Activities/Sentence Structure
- Pre-testing
- Socratic Discussion/Debate
- Peer Sharing/Editing
- Writing Practice (formal and informal)

Resources:

Textbook: Glencoe Literature Reader's Choice (course 5)

Novels: *Of Mice and Men* (John Steinbeck); *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Harper Lee); *Night* (Elie Wiesel); *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* (Sherman Alexie)

Expectations

Materials: You will be responsible for bringing the following supplies to class each day: notebook (paper), pen and/or pencil, book, agenda, and completed homework.

Late Work: Homework is due at the BEGINNING of each period. After class has started, it will be considered late. Late homework will result in a point reduction. Late work will be accepted prior to the chapter/unit test.

Make up Work: If you are absent, it is your responsibility to request and make up all the work you missed. This may require you to come in before school, after school, or during a free period. You will have two days to complete make up work.

- If you know in advance you will be absent, please inform the teacher.
- Pick up any missing work at the beginning or the end of class the next day, not in the middle of class while an activity or assignment is taking place.

Tests and Quizzes: Tests will be taken on the pre-announced day. If you are absent the day before a test, expect to take the test the day after you receive the review information. If you are absent the day of a test, expect to take the test the day you return.

Tardy Policy: Please be in your desk before the bell rings. See your agenda for the school tardy policy.

Cell Phones: Cellphones should not be used or SEEN in class unless using for a class activity purpose. If your cell phone is seen being used, it will be taken away for the class period. You will have one warning, otherwise you will have to pick it up from the AP Office.

- If a cell phone is out during a test, you will automatically receive a zero on the test.

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating is forbidden. This includes plagiarism, blatant copying, and "borrowing" homework. Student(s) involved will be given a zero on the assignment, a parent contact will be made, and other disciplinary action may be taken.

Grading Scale:

A	93-100%	B	83-86%	C	73-77%	D	63-66%
A-	90-92%	B-	80-82%	C-	70-72%	D-	60-62%
B+	87-89%	C+	77-79%	D+	67-69%	F	59%

Communication Plan:

- Email: amwilliams@dbqschools.org (This is slightly different than other teacher formats).
- Phone: DSHS Extension: #5558
- Extra Help: If you need extra help with anything in this class, please talk to me to make an appointment before or after school. You are always encouraged to ask questions and to get help when you need it.

