

English IV Syllabus 2007-2008
Ms. Holley/Room 208
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Course Description: This course is designed to enable effective communication. With this in mind, English IV will focus on enhancing the writing and verbal skills of each individual student. Students will be required to write and present arguments that not only explore literary issues, but also personal ones as well. The course will include analysis of essays, dramas, novels, poetry, short stories; vocabulary and grammar; essay composition; and writing.

Course Division: Major literary works will be covered in this course. These will include, but not be limited to, the epic, Beowulf, William Shakespeare's drama, Macbeth, Geoffrey Chaucer's poetry, Canterbury Tales, and several essays.

Intended Outcomes: At the end of the course the student will not only be better acquainted with major literary works, but also feel comfortable speaking in front of the class, writing a sophisticated essay using correct grammar and varied sentence structure, and writing about a topic in depth in order to prove and validate a point.

Grading Policy: Each assignment (including homework), quiz, test and project will be worth points comparable to their difficulty. The Broward County School grading scale shall be used. There are also participation points added on a weekly basis, so please come prepared to participate in class discussions (sleeping in class will not be tolerated, nor head down on desk). Extra-credit opportunities will be rare (if any) and therefore should not be counted on.

Make-up Work Policy: Assignments are due when assigned, no exceptions. The daily class assignments and homework are known in advance and will be on the website as well as on a calendar located in the classroom. If you are absent on the day an assignment or project is due, it must be handed in at the beginning of class on the day you return to class. If you are absent on the day that an assignment or project is given, you will have two class days for each class day absent to make up the work. Do not come to me for make-up work. The student is responsible for accessing the make-up work from the website or from the assignment calendar located in the classroom.

Attendance Policy: Each and every day of class is important, and it will be your responsibility to get any notes or homework details that you missed while you were absent. Please note that effective for the 2007-2008 school year, both excused and unexcused absences along with tardiness and early sign-outs will be counted when determining a student's pattern of non-attendance.

Academic Honesty: Plagiarism and cheating are prohibited. Plagiarism is defined as taking or using the thoughts, writings, or inventions of another as one's own. Learn to paraphrase ideas in your own words. Do NOT purchase, borrow, or revise another student's work. Do not risk getting a zero and more importantly, lowering your own standards by cheating.

Cell Phones and Music Devices: All cell phones must be turned off and completely invisible during class. If a cell phone is visible, rings, or a student is caught text messaging, the phone will be confiscated and submitted to administration for a parent to pick up. Music devices (headphones, IPODS, etc.) are not to be used in class at any time and must be completely invisible as well. If you are using a music device in class, it will be confiscated and submitted to administration for a parent to pick up.

Classroom Etiquette:

- 1.) Student will be in classroom, seated at desk, and prepared for class when the tardy bell rings.
- 2.) Student is expected to adhere to all of the rules stated in the Student Code of Conduct Book.
- 3.) No food or drink (except for water) will be permitted in the classroom.
- 4.) Student is expected to raise his/her hand when he/she has a question or comment.
- 5.) Student will stay in the assigned seat until teacher dismisses the class.
- 6.) Respect others and their property.
- 7.) Use of cell phones and music devices is prohibited.
- 8.) Restroom use will be limited and is at the discretion of the teacher. No restroom passes will be given during the first and last 15 minutes of class.

Supplies:

- 1.) Three-ring binder or folder (with inside pockets)
- 2.) Loose-leaf lined notebook paper for daily use
- 3.) Subject notebook with perforated pages (no spiral notebooks)
- 4.) Blue or black pens (only)
- 5.) Pencils (# 2)
- 6.) Highlighters, colored pencils
- 7.) Disk key
- 8.) Agenda/planner

Silent Reading: Every Tuesday and Thursday, students will spend at least 20 minutes of class time reading a book of their choice. During silent reading time, the student must be reading silently and will receive a grade based on whether or not he/she is doing so. The student is responsible for bringing a book of his/her choice to class to read.

Technology: Each student will be required to access the class website and other websites periodically over the duration of the course. If you do not have access at home, you may come to school early or stay after school to access the sites on the computers in the Media Center.

Helpful Websites: www.monarchknights.com - Monarch High School's website.
www.browardschools.com - Broward County's District School website.