English 12 SYLLABUS 2015-16

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will learn critical thinking skills through literary analysis. Students will use a variety of genres to refine critical reading and writing skills. They will also observe, analyze, plan, and create written and oral presentations independently and in large and small group settings. Students will use available technology to access, organize, evaluate, and present information to include the use and citation of a variety of primary and secondary sources. Students will learn how to effectively incorporate media literacy, non-fiction, and "Portrait of a Graduate" skills into their own work. In addition, students will further develop and apply knowledge of the structure of English including vocabulary, grammar, and usage. (Honors English 12 will also follow the advanced academics extensions.)

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course follows the FCPS Program of Studies and the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) listed below:

- 12.1 The student will make a formal oral presentation in a group or individually.
  Advanced Academic Extension: The student will express ideas fluently in formal oral presentations and small-group collaborations specific to professional and academic situations. (Practice)
- 12.2 The student will examine how values and points of view are included or excluded and how media influences beliefs and behaviors.
  Advanced Academic Extension: The student will analyze and evaluate how media strategically influences beliefs and behaviors of specific groups across time, place, and culture. (Connections)
- 12.3 The student will apply knowledge of word origins, derivations, and figurative language to extend vocabulary development in authentic texts.
  Advanced Academic Extension: The student will build a sophisticated vocabulary by engaging in active reading and making connections among language in texts from a variety of times, places, and cultures, and will apply vocabulary fluently in a variety of communication situations. (Connections)
- 12.4 The student will read, comprehend, and analyze the development of British literature and literature of other cultures.
  Advanced Academic Extension: The student will act as a literary critic through analysis of the ways authors use language and techniques to shape meaning in British and World literature, and the ways literature helps to make sense of one’s place in a complex and changing world. (Practice/Identity)
- 12.5 The student will read and analyze a variety of nonfiction texts.
  Advanced Academic Extension: The student will analyze and synthesize self-selected nonfiction texts from different perspectives to develop new knowledge and understanding of a subject. (Connections/Identity)
● 12.6 The student will develop expository and informational analyses and persuasive/argumentative writings.
   Advanced Academic Extension: The student will apply the writing process as a tool for personal inquiry and communication to develop new understandings on complex topics, and will utilize rhetoric appropriate to the audience and purpose. (Identity)
● 12.7 The student will write, revise, and edit writing.
   Advanced Academic Extension: The student will build expertise as an editor by revising content, language, style, and voice for targeted audiences. (Practice)
● 12.8 The student will write documented research papers.
   Advanced Academic Extension: The student will synthesize information from diverse sources to develop insight on self-selected topics to produce research papers that analyze universal issues relevant to a complex and changing world. (Practice/Identity)

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Be Punctual: Students need to attend class at the given time and location. Frequently missed classes and/or tardiness will affect the learning process and your course grade.

Be Respectful: Students need to listen when the teacher is speaking or other students are speaking. Each member of the class will have a voice which must be respected, whether or not you are in agreement.

Be Prepared: Students need to come to class with all required materials, writing utensils, and any assignments that are due. Be aware of the text (novel, textbook) you will need in advance, and stay on top of assignments.

COURSE TEXTS

- Selections from *Holt Elements of Literature, Sixth Course* anthology
- *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare
- *1984* by George Orwell
- *Fences* by August Wilson
- “Master Harold”...and the boys by Athol Fugard
- *The Stranger* by Albert Camus
- *No Exit* by Paul Sartre
- Variety of nonfiction articles, short stories, short plays, and poems

Please note that some of the books you will read this year may contain mature content and/or controversial material (i.e. offensive language, violence, and/or implied or explicit sexual situations). The resources listed below can be used to see book reviews and get more information about the books we will use in our class.

- Bartleby.com: Great Books Online [http://www.bartleby.com](http://www.bartleby.com)
- Book Reporter [http://www.bookreporter.com](http://www.bookreporter.com)

If your parent or guardian would like to review any of these texts or request an alternate reading assignment please have him or her contact the teacher directly through the email provided at the top of the syllabus.

COURSE MATERIALS

- A three ring binder with dividers
- College-ruled, lined paper filler paper (I do not accept paper torn with jagged edges from notebooks.)
- Pocket Folder (You will receive and use a lot of handouts.)
- Red and black ink pens for writing / #2 pencils for standardized tests
- Different colored highlighters
- Agenda / Planner / Passport (You must have an agenda to receive permission to leave the room.)
COURSE POLICIES

Grading
The following is an approximate distribution of the percentages of assigned work to the student’s quarter grade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment Category</th>
<th>Percentage of Quarter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Work / Homework</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests and Projects</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Assignments</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At the end of the marking period, the total points achieved will be converted into a letter grade according to the Fairfax County Public Schools grading system:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>64-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Final Exam / Culminating Project
A final examination will be administered in June. The exam grade will count one-ninth of the student's final grade in the class.

Final Grade Determination
Students’ final grades will be determined by averaging the scores from each of the four quarters, which will count for two-ninths of the final grade, and the final exam.

Late Work
If a homework or classwork assignment is missed, then work must be completed within two weeks of due date during Intervention Time or before or after school in the teacher’s classroom for 65% credit.

Major assignments, such as revised papers and long-term projects, submitted after the due date will receive a full letter grade deduction for each school day, not class period. Late major assignments will not be accepted one week after the original due date.

Make Up Work for Excused Absences
Any test, quiz, or homework given on the day that a student is absent must be made up within the number of days that the student was excused from school. For example, if a student is absent for two days, he/she has two days to make up the test, quiz, or homework.

If a student does not make up that test, quiz, or homework within the specified time frame, he/she will receive a 0% until the assignment is completed. If a student is absent on the day a major assignment is due, then the assignment must be submitted electronically before or on the due date.
**Make Up Work for Unexcused Absences**
When a student has an unexcused absence, the student has the sole responsibility to obtain from the teacher any quiz or test. The work must be made up by the next class period. Students will receive 65% of the earned grade. If a student does not make up that quiz, test, or other written assignment by the next class period, he/she will receive a 0% until the assessment is completed. Homework that was due on the day of the unexcused absence will be accepted for a lowered grade. Major assignments due on the day of the unexcused absence will be considered late.

**Test / Quiz / Writing Corrections**
For summative assessments, students will have the opportunity to correct their work to improve their mastery of the material.

**Plagiarism Policy**
Cheating and plagiarism not only jeopardize a student's grades, but also his/her future academic integrity as a student in high school and college. Once a student has been caught cheating or plagiarizing, the incident remains on the student's academic record. Cheating includes: copying homework, giving and receiving answers on a test, using the internet or commercial "study guides" to crib homework responses, and relaying test questions to other students in a different period. The first time a student cheats at Fairfax High School, the student must retake the assessment for a grade no higher than 65%. The second time the student cheats, the student will receive a zero on the assignment. Any time a student cheats, the student will be referred to administration in order for disciplinary consequences to be assigned, to keep track of any offenses, and in order for honor societies, club sponsors, and coaches to be informed.

Plagiarism, the unauthorized use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one's own original work, is a form of dishonesty.

1. **Plagiarism is easy to identify and expose.** Teachers can readily detect writing that is not consistent with the student's normal sentence structure and word choice. In addition, teachers can quickly locate the source of suspected plagiarism on the web.

2. **All parties to plagiarism are equally guilty.** If you share your work with another student and he or she copies it, you are as guilty as the one who has plagiarized your work because you enabled the plagiarism to take place. *Under no circumstances should you allow another student to copy your work.*

**Avoid Unintentional Plagiarism by Citing Sources Properly**
Students often commit plagiarism because they do not cite the source of an idea or phrase that they have incorporated into their own work. Below are websites that you can visit to educate yourself about plagiarism and learn how to cite properly.

*Avoiding Plagiarism*
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r_plagiar.html

**Cheating Policy** - The first time a student cheats at FHS, the student must retake the assessment for a grade of no higher than 65%. The second time the student cheats; the student will receive a zero on the assignment. It is then up to the teacher to decide if they will give the student a make-up assignment. A referral will be written in any instance of cheating for the administration in order for disciplinary consequences to be assigned, to keep track of any offenses, and in order for honor societies, club sponsors, and coaches to be informed. These offenses also include giving or receiving information on tests.

**Winter Break**
Fairfax High School celebrates the Winter Break as family time that is homework free time. No homework will be assigned over the break.
ENGLISH 12/ENGLISH 12
HONORS

COURSE SYLLABUS 2015-16

Please share and discuss the SYLLABUS with your parents. Sign this page and return to your teacher by the next class period.

I acknowledge that I have received and reviewed the SYLLABUS for English 12 / English 12 Honors. I understand the requirements of the course.

Student Signature  X___________________________________________________________

Student Name (printed) ____________________________________________________  Date _____________

Student E-Mail _______________________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature  X_____________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian(s) Name(s) (printed) __________________________________________  Date _____________

Parent/Guardian E-Mail ________________________________________________________