**English I Syllabus**

Contact

Amber Murphy

Prep: 8th Hour

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Website: [www.msmurphy101.weebly.com](http://www.msmurphy101.weebly.com)

Course Description

This course is a survey of American and World Literature throughout the 20th century. Students will study fiction and nonfiction literature and the characteristics of the different eras and genres, including poetry, short stories, essays and novels. Vocabulary will be developed through the study of words from the core works and, at times, from outside sources. Students will develop skills in reading literature, in oral language, and in writing. Conventions of language and grammar will be presented as part of the study of reading and writing. The writing process will be integral to this course, emphasizing narrative, compare/contrast, argumentative and research writing styles. In addition to curriculum-required materials, students will also practice EOC test-taking skills.

We will focus on many standards, skills and concepts this year, but our “Power Standards,” which we will focus on every unit for the entire year include:

1. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.9 Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
2. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.9-10.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 9–10 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
3. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
4. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.5 Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1–3 up to and including grades 9–10 here.)
5. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.1 Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9–10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
6. CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10.2 Determine a central idea or theme of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.

*\*More standards will be added as students master skills.*

Semester Schedules

I will provide an overview and calendar at the beginning of every unit. *There will be an Honors option for this class -- more information will be provided in the future.* (\*This is subject to change):

**Semester 1**

Unit 1: Non-Fiction Unit (Education in America)

Unit 2: “Of Mice and Men” by John Steinbeck

Unit 3: Short Fiction and Writing Narratives

Unit 4: Self-Selected Science Fiction Unit

**Semester 2**

Unit 5: “To Kill a Mockingbird” by Harper Lee

Unit 6: Interdisciplinary Research Unit

Unit 7: EOC and Poetry Unit

Materials

1. Two-subject notebook
2. Folder
3. Writing Utensils
4. Jump Drive

Grading Scale

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = 50% and below

Important Policies

**Late Work/Missing Work:** If you turn an assignment in by the end of the day, it is considered on-time and you can receive *up to* 100% (it will still be graded). You have until the next class period we meet to turn it in late for 50% off. After that, no more late work will be accepted. This includes final projects and essays. Students who turn work in on time will also have the option to revise for a higher grade. At the end of each quarter, students who have all work turned in will get a “free homework” pass.

**Make-up Work:** When absences occur, students are still required to turn in assignments by the due date. If an assignment is due when you are absent, you will be expected to turn it in the day you return.There will be a crate by my desk with folders organized by date. You may get late work before class, after class or during group/independent time.

**Power Ups:** We will have a “power up” every day of class. I will come around the room at the end of the time to check off that you completed it for participation points. You get one “pass” per week, including absences. If you are absent more than one class, you can make up your participation points by bringing an interesting article to share with the class.

**Cell phones/Electronics:** We will be practicing appropriate cell phone usage in our classroom. That means that cell phones should NEVER be out during instruction, tests or class discussions (RED/Cell phones away). If they are, I will confiscate it until the end of the day (this is your warning!). During group or independent work, I may let you listen to music (if you earn it) and we may use our cell phones as tools in our classroom (Green/Cell phones out). Sitting and playing on your phone, however, is never appropriate during class time.

**Food and Beverage:** You may have food and beverage in my class, as long as you clean up after yourself and do not let it become a distraction. As soon as it does, your class will lose this privilege for the rest of the year. YOU MAY NOT SHARE FOOD AND DRINKS, AND DRINKS MUST HAVE A LID.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Involvement in plagiarism, cheating or copying of any kind will result in a ZERO. Your dishonesty will result in a referral to the office, notification to your parent(s), coach(es), club sponsor(s), and/or counselor.

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**I have read and understand the expectations of Ms. Murphy’s class as outlined by the syllabus:**

**Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**