**English 12**

**Course Syllabus and Grading Policy**

**Mr. Floyd, Room 138**

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**Class Description:** English 12 is a survey of British literature throughout the centuries. It will also encompass vocabulary, grammar, and writing study. The idea is to get students prepared for life after high school, whether they are going to attend college or not.

**Classroom Expectations/Rules**

I have two basic expectations for students and myself: be respectful and work as hard as possible. The combination of these two things will ensure success in the English 12 classroom.

There are a couple of basic rules students are asked to follow:

* No cell phones at any time; a depository will be provided for cell phones at the beginning of each class, and all students will place their phones there as they enter the classroom. Any student who does not place his phone in the container and is caught with the phone during class time will have it confiscated.
* Earbuds and ear phones are not permitted at any time.
* Water only, in a clear, plastic bottle, and no food at any time;
* No gum in the classroom;
* Students are expected to follow all other school rules as outlined in the student handbook

**Textbooks and Materials**

The textbook for this class is Holt-MacDougal’s *British Literature*. There is a set of books in the classroom, and they will remain there for use during each block. However, students will be given access to an online version of the textbook, which they will complete readings and assignments that must be done outside of class. There may be special circumstances that will allow students to take a textbook home; if that is the case, the book will be returned in a prompt manner and in good condition, or students will be placed on the debt list.

In addition to the textbooks, students will also need:

* A three-ring binder, which can be divided into at least four sections
* Ink pens (blue or black)
* A flash drive
* Notecards (3x5 and 4x6) which will be used for the research process.

**Grading**

Grading will be based on the following criteria:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Course Work** | **Percentage of Final Grade** |
| Homework | 10% |
| Classwork/Quizzes | 20% |
| Vocabulary | 10% |
| Tests/Essays | 30% |
| Book Reports/Projects | 30% |

The grading scale for Parry McCluer High School is outlined in the student handbook.

**Extra Credit**

Grades should be a product of what you have learned, not what you scrambled to put together at the last minute to try to pull your mark up. With that in mind, extra credit will not be offered in English 12.

**Absences and Missed Work**

The student handbook states that students who are absent from school have two days to make up work that was missed. This policy will be strictly enforced. Extra time may be given at the discretion of the teacher. Test and quizzes that were assigned in advance should be made up on the day the student returns to school. I will try to find time during class for make-up tests, but students should most often plan on staying after school. Long-term assignments are due on the date assigned. Remember, email is always an option!

Students will have a number of ways to find out what they have missed during an absence. In addition to the class make-up work that will be attached to the bulletin board at the back of the room, students will have access to the Remind App and the class web page, where all work will be posted.

Students, and parents, should keep in mind the new policy for being tardy at Parry McCluer High School. As always, two unexcused tardies will count as one absence. This year, students who are late for school and appear on the daily absentee list will not be admitted to class without a pass. A student who is late for one class after leaving another needs to bring a note of explanation from the previous teacher. Students will be required to stay after school to make up time missed due to an unexcused tardy. Repeated offenses will result in stricter disciplinary measures. All tardiness is deemed unexcused after the fourth tardy, unless a doctor’s note is provided or a chronic illness form is filed. After four tardies, students will be required to attend after-school detention.

Absences are especially important to seniors. Seniors can be exempt from their final exams if they maintain a B average in the class and have missed no more than four days throughout the school year. Any absences exceeding that number mean the student cannot be exempt from the exam, regardless of his or her grade in the class.

**Cheating and Plagiarism**

Cheating, including plagiarism, will not be tolerated. Any student found in violation of an integrity offense is subject to the following penalties:

* Zero for the work the cheating was performed in
* In-School suspension
* Stricter measures will be implemented for repeat offenders.

**Senioritis**

The Urban Dictionary defines senioritis as “a crippling disease that strikes high school seniors.” Symptoms of senioritis include, but are not limited to, laziness, lack of studying, repeated absences, and a generally dismissive attitude.

While doctors have not declared senioritis a legitimate disorder, it is nonetheless very real and should be avoided at all costs. Falling into the senioritis funk can lead to serious complications down the road.

To avoid the dread disease, one must remember that the senior year is not really the end; it is the beginning of the rest of your life. Fight with all of your might to stay focused and motivated. The instructor will try to do his part, and if you think you are starting to show some of the symptoms of senioritis, do not hesitate to set up an appointment to discuss the matter. We are in this together, and together we can stamp out senioritis.

**Course Outline**

The English 12 class will take students on a journey through the many of the eras of British literature, beginning with the Anglo-Saxon period and culminating with study of a Victorian novel. Students will write a number of formal papers throughout the course, including a major research project that will adhere to MLA style. Each unit will be complemented with vocabulary and grammar study.

The following is a brief overview of what we hope to cover in English 12 this year:

Unit 1: Anglo-Saxon/Medieval Literature: This includes study of the epic poem *Beowulf* and Geoffery Chaucer’s *The Canterbury Tales*. During this unit students will also compose a personal narrative essay.

Unit 2: The Renaissance: This unit will include a number of poets from the era, as well as a different, yet comprehensive study of William Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*. During this unit, students will compose a persuasive/argumentative essay and dive deeper into the research process.

Unit 3: The Restoration: While much of the time during this unit will be dedicated to research and the student’s project, we will also take a look at poetry from the Restoration era, as well as Jonathan Swift’s essay “A Modest Proposal.”

Unit 4: The Victorian Era: During this unit, students will study Robert Louis Stevenson’s novella *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. They will compose an essay of literary analysis during this unit, exploring how Stevenson used his novel to criticize events during his time.

Students should know that this is not set in stone. The senior year is a busy one for students inside and outside of the classroom, and often unforeseen circumstances require us to adapt. Therefore, this syllabus is subject to change.

I have read the syllabus above and understand the expectations and outline of the English 12 course.

Student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_