



English III Syllabus
North Dorchester High School
Ms. Nicole Benner
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Room: A-106
Planning Period: 3
Phone: (410) 943 – 4511 ext. 1579

Course Description:

The English 11 course is designed to further develop reading, writing, speaking, listening, grammar, usage, and mechanics skills within the context of grade-level literary and informational texts. This eleventh-grade course is designed to engage students with literary works of various genres and non-fiction texts, with an emphasis on rhetoric and nonfiction. It addresses the Maryland College and Career Readiness Standards for English and is designed to provide a comprehensive base of experience and learning to prepare students to be college and career ready.

Course Requirements:

There will be extensive reading and writing assignments for you to complete on time. I expect you to make mature decisions and develop a positive work ethic to be successful. This course will be heavily based on comprehending and responding to American literature. You will be required to respond both verbally and in writing in individual and group settings. **It is imperative that you take the time to closely read all assigned materials.** By completing the reading, you will be able to fully participate in all classroom activities and should have no trouble gaining valuable information from the material. If you are absent from class, you are not excused from the assignment or tests (please follow the DCPS policy on make-up work and excused and unexcused absences). It is your responsibility to make up your assignments and schedule times to discuss them with Ms. Benner.

Course Overview

Unit Title	Extended Text Selection	Assessment Dates
Social Status and Identity	<i>The Glass Castle</i> by Jeannette Walls	TBD
Truth vs. Perception	<i>The Crucible</i> by Arthur Miller	TBD
Rags to Riches: The American Dream	<i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> by Zora Neale Hurston/ <i>The Great Gatsby</i> by F. Scott Fitzgerald	TBD

Textbooks and Resources:

Schoology: <https://dcpsmd.schoology.com>

Reading materials will be provided in an online format.

Required Materials:

Folder
Notebook
Pencil or pen (blue or black ink only)
Highlighter

Grading Policy

All assignments will be graded using a point system. As per the county policy, all classwork and homework grades are 40% of the overall final grade. Tests, quizzes, major projects, and essays are 60% of the overall final grade. Please refer to the County Calendar and your agenda for the full explanation of the grading policy.

Office Hours and Extra Help

When we are back in the classroom and it is allowed, Ms. Benner will hold weekly office hours after school. That day will be announced when it is needed. Students may stay until 3:30 for extra help but must have a ride home. Appointments can also be scheduled if the assigned day does not work for a student's schedule.

During virtual learning, Ms. Benner will be available at the Google Meets code during asynchronous learning time and on Mondays by appointment. Please reach out to Ms. Benner if you need extra help or need to do make up work.

Guidelines for Success: General

- Attend class every day, and do not be late.
- Work hard on your daily assignments and meet all deadlines. Work will not be accepted if you decide not to do your work in class.
- Please be organized!
- Cheating will not be tolerated. If you find it necessary to cheat, appropriate action will be taken.
- Profanity is not to be used in school.
- This class relies heavily on class discussion and peer led learning. Just because a topic is not on a slideshow or written on the board, does not mean you won't see it again.
- Communicate with Ms. Benner any needs or issues that you may have through email or during office hours/asynchronous time.

Guidelines for Success: Virtual

- If it wouldn't be appropriate for you to do in the classroom, don't do it virtually.
- Participate in class discussions, group break out rooms, and group projects.
- It is required that you have a microphone so that you can participate in class. While it is not required that you have your camera on so we can see you, I strongly encourage it.
- Asynchronous work is due at the end of the day each day. If it is not submitted by midnight, it will be late.
- Everything should be submitted through Schoology. If you are having trouble on the platform, visit me in asynchronous time on Google Meets.

Guidelines for Success: In person

- You are not to stand in the hall before class. As you enter the classroom, sharpen pencils, sit in your assigned seats, and begin warm-up before the bell rings.
- Be quiet and respectful during announcements.
- In the event that you have an excused absence, please check the make-up work folder/binder, and/or the classroom assistance website. Please schedule a time outside of class if you need further assistance.
- Raise your hand to be recognized and called upon by the teacher. There is to be no talking or getting out of your assigned seat unless Ms. Rank grants you permission.
- Be prepared for class everyday with all required materials.
- Do not touch things in the classroom that are not yours – let's be respectful of each other's belongings.
- No food, drinks, toys, cell phones, CD/DVD players, iPods, and/or electronic devices are to be brought to

class.

- If a substitute leaves your name for misbehaving and/or causing a disturbance, appropriate action will be taken.

Consequences

If for some reason you break one of the above stated guidelines, the following actions will be taken:

- **First offense:** Warning/student conference
- **Second offense:** phone call home and minor offense referral form (3x)
- Once you get three minor referrals, you will receive a major incident office referral

On the opposite side, there will be rewards in place this year for positive behaviors. More information to be given out in class.

I have read all of the information stated on Ms. Benner's English III Syllabus. I understand that the guidelines and policies must be followed in order to achieve a positive classroom learning climate that will bring success to my classmates and me. By following **North Dorchester High School's** philosophy of being respectful, responsible, and ready, I can expect to be successful in this class. Failure to abide by classroom rules will result in the consequences as specified in this document. If I ever need extra help or have questions, it is my responsibility to ask Ms. Benner at appropriate times.

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

*Electronic survey substituted for signature for virtual learning.

North Dorchester Learner Commitment: *We are the North Dorchester Eagles. We are becoming college, career, and community ready by demonstrating integrity, honor, and ethics through our voices and our choices.*