

English II Honors Syllabus

North Dorchester High School

Room B-6

Mr. Adam Wilson, Instructor

Planning Period: 3 and 4

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Course Description

This tenth grade course is the second in a series designed to accelerate development of and refine reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. It addresses the Maryland Common Core Curriculum Frameworks for English and offers a challenging experience to students with the strongest reading and writing skills. The fast pace and advanced content of this course stretch students' abilities and equip students to meet the standards of most demanding postsecondary career and educational opportunities. Students are required to write a research paper in this course. This course requires students to take a PARCC Exam in English.

Course Requirements

This course will be heavily based on comprehending and responding to literary elements and a survey of literature from a variety of locations and time periods. 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. All students have been assigned textbooks and have access to an online textbook for reading assignments outside the classroom. Parents and students should expect daily homework assignments that include reading and/or writing

Units of Study

- Plot, Setting, and Mood
- Character Development
- Narrative Devices
- Theme
- Author's Purpose
- Argument and Persuasion
- The Language of Poetry
- Author's Style and Voice
- History, Culture, and the Author
- Greek Tragedy and Medieval Romance
- The Tragedy of Julius Caesar
- The Power of Research

Required Materials

- Holt McDougal Literature (ISBN 978-0-547-61840-1)
- Pencils **OR** pens (blue or black ink only)
- NDHS Agenda
- Loose leaf paper or a notebook with detachable paper
- A storage system (folder or binder) for notes and returned work

Grading Policy

All assignments will be graded using a point system. Progress reports will be sent home on a regular basis. Assignments are broken down into the following categories and weighted in the following manner:

- Formative Assessments (class work, homework, etc) 30% of your final grade
- Summative Assessments (tests, quizzes, projects, etc.) 70% of your final grade

Guidelines for Success

- As you enter the classroom, take out your materials, sit in your assigned seat, and begin your warm-up. There should be no standing at the door or leaving once you have entered the classroom.
- Organize and plan your time carefully to meet all deadlines.
- Attend class every day, and do not be late.
- Raise your hand to be recognized and called upon by the teacher. There is to be no talking or getting out of your seat unless Mr. Wilson grants you permission.
- Be prepared for class everyday with all required materials.
- Be silent and attentive during announcements and when Mr. Wilson is talking.
- Work hard on your daily assignments and meet all deadlines. **Work will not be accepted if you decide to not do your work in class. Late work will not be accepted unless you have excused absences.**
- Be respectful of things in the classroom. If it is not yours, do not touch it.
- No food, drinks, toys, makeup, cell phones, iPods, or other electronic devices are to be brought to class. These items will be taken and given to the administration. Nothing should interfere with your learning potential!
- Try your best!