

English 1-2

Mrs. Maryjo Williams - Room A213

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"It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it."

-Aristotle

We are committed to providing your student with a well-rounded/diverse educational experience, involving a wide variety of topics and relevant social issues encountered in our pluralistic society. In our classrooms, all opinions are valued and critical thinking is expected. The focus of instruction is centered on both the Dubuque Community School District and Iowa State Standards. Parents and/or guardians are welcome/encouraged to read, view, and discuss material with their student.

Course Description: This course emphasizes a continuation of the communication skills and strands which are developed in 7th and 8th grade Language Arts. Thematic units covering a variety of genre include non-fiction, short story, novel, poetry, mythology, and an introduction to Shakespeare through Romeo and Juliet. Additionally, reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills are taught in conjunction with each unit of literature. Students will recognize and define multiple literary terms. Students will work on grammar, vocabulary, sentence construction, and writing through expository, personal, literary analysis, comparison and contrast, and research writing.

Alignment to the Iowa Core Curriculum: Instruction, learning, and assessment are built on the 9-10th grade-band expectations of the Iowa Core Reading, Writing, Listening, and Language Strands.

Iowa Core Standards

Standard 1: Reading Strand - Literature

Students will effectively comprehend, analyze, evaluate, and create using a diverse range of appropriately complex print materials.

Standard 2: Reading Strand - Informational Text

Students will effectively comprehend, analyze, evaluate, and create using a diverse range of appropriately complex print materials.

Standard 3: Writing

Students will routinely write to learn and to communicate for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Standard 4: Speaking and Listening

Students will participate effectively in a range of rich, structured conversations, collaborations, and presentations.

Standard 5: Language

Students will apply knowledge of the English language and its conventions when reading, writing, speaking and listening.

CONTENT: Short Stories, Drama, Novels, Poetry, Nonfiction, Grammar/Writing

RESOURCES: Textbook: The Reader's Choice (Glencoe)

In addition, we will read the following works of literature:

Romeo and Juliet: William Shakespeare

Lord of the Flies: William Golding

Our America: Jones and Newman

Speak: Laurie Halse Anderson

The House on Mango Street: Sandra Cisneros

The Odyssey: Homer

Optional Texts: Twelve Angry Men

EXPECTATIONS:

Materials: paper, pen and pencil, binder with dividers, book, agenda, and completed homework.

Late Work: Partial credit may sometimes be earned for assignments turned in after the due date.

Make-up Work: If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get your make-up work. Please see me before class for any handouts / assignments you may have missed. Also, check my website.

Tests and Quizzes: Tests will be taken on the day announced. If you are absent the day before a test, expect to take the test the day after you receive the review information. If you are absent the day of a test, expect to take the test the day you return.

Tardy Policy: Please be in your desk before the bell rings. See your agenda for the school tardy policy.

Remember to wear your ID.

No cell phones allowed during class.

Grading Scale:

A: 93-100

A- 90-92

B+ 87-89

B: 83-86

B- 80-82

C+ 77- 79

C: 73-76

C- 70-72

D+ 67-69

D: 63-66

D- 60-62

You have to have the confidence in your ability, and then
be tough enough to follow through.

- Rosalynn Carter