

**Mr. Bentley**

**Nestucca High School**

Class: English 11

Status: Required

Academic Year: 2015-2016

**Course Description:** Hello Juniors, and welcome to English 11. Throughout the school year, we will be improving our reading, writing, and editing skills with the help of various types of texts: our textbook, novels, and non-fiction works will be used.

### **Objectives**

Students will learn to appreciate and understand the purpose of a variety of texts such as short stories, poetry, novels, non-fiction informational texts, audio-visuals, and drama

Students will become more familiar with punctuation and grammar and how it can be used to improve one's writing

Students will understand the importance of organization and editing to becoming a better writer

Students will improve skills promoted by the Common Core State Standards

Students will produce writing work samples

Students will improve reading skills

### **Texts**

We will use the textbook *The Reader's Choice: American Literature*, along with novels and selected non-fiction pieces to build the above skills through the scope of the American Dream. Some of the novels we will read all of or a portion of are: *The Great Gatsby*, *Of Mice and Men*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, and *The Scarlett Letter/The Witch of Blackbird Pond*.

### **Grading**

Grades will be based on points given for the following:

Papers of varying lengths and modes (narrative, argumentative, etc.)

In-class presentations and activities

Tests and quizzes

*Grading will be done on a percentage scale from 0-100% with more weight given to tests and papers*

Grading Scale:      100-90% = A

                             89-80% = B

                             79-70% = C

                             69-60% = D

                             59-0% = F

Late Work: Daily work will not be accepted more than one day after the original due date unless previously arranged. Papers and tests will need to be done by the due date and turned in. I am flexible if exceptions need to be made, but see me before that date.

### **Classroom Rules**

1. Respect Others- all students, teachers, assistants, and guests in the class will treat all others with respect for their person and their thoughts/opinions regardless of personal beliefs.
2. Do Not Disrupt Class- this is a classroom where ideas are meant to be shared, and learning is a team effort. This means that everyone needs to be respectful of the normal classroom behaviors expected for a given situation (wait your turn, do not interrupt, acceptable voice levels, etc.)
3. Be Prepared for Class- It is required that all students come to class on time (in seat and ready to go at the bell) with all supplies each day: book, pen, binder, journal, and any other items mentioned before that day.
4. Technological Devices- To help maintain an orderly and attentive atmosphere, technological devices (phones, tablets, iPods, etc.) will not be used in class unless for an academic purpose. To prevent confusion, I will specify whether or not a requested use is acceptable at that time for the given reason
5. Give your best effort- Practice does not make perfect, perfect practice makes perfect. It is expected that all students will give their best in class; this will help you personally understand the material better, and sharing your knowledge may also help your classmates.

### **Daily Supplies**

The following are necessary for daily success in class: let me know if you do not have these and I can supply them for a price.

1. Pen (dark ink, not red) or pencil
2. 3-ring binder with notebook paper and dividers
3. One single subject spiral bound notebook for journal exercises
4. Appropriate reading materials for silent, independent reading on specified days
5. Textbooks, novels, or any other reading materials we are using in class at the time

### **Additional**

For any issues which may occur throughout the year, the student handbook will be the final word where applicable, but I would prefer that we avoid that type of behavior altogether.

If you would like to set up an appointment for a meeting regarding make-up work, arranged absences, behavioral issues, or just clarification on something, send me an email at: [tylerb@nestucca.k12.or.us](mailto:tylerb@nestucca.k12.or.us), or leave a voicemail at (503) 392-3194 Ext. 219.

**I am looking forward to having you all in my class this year.**