

ENGLISH III

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Mr. Smith, M.A., M.F.A.

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Google Classroom: 3g7ebp

Instructor Information

Conference Time: Fourth Period

Section Information

Section: English III: American Literature

Semester\Year: Fall Semester 2016

Class Room Location: room 1703

English III Overview

This course builds on the skills students have already acquired and prepares them to perform increasingly more sophisticated reading, writing, and thinking. The expectation is that students will be able to master the course objectives laid out by the state and district. It is also expected that students will master skills needed to be successful in post-high school education.

Grading

This class will follow HISD policy of counting major grades for 60% and daily grades for 40%. Semester grades will consist of 3 six-week period grades and a semester exam which counts 20% of the final grade. More details of the grading policy can be found in the student handbook.

Major grades will consist of

- At least 2 comprehensive tests per six-weeks.
Test will contain a variety of objective and essay questions and will be timed
- In-class and out-of-class writing assignments (major essays)
- Class Participation

Daily grades will consist of

- Class-work/home-work
- Notebook / Reading Journal (Personal Blog sites)
- Quizzes
- Progress checks on major essays
- Twitter Account Activity

Homework

Students will not have an excess of homework on a regular basis. However, work not completed in class and studying for test should be attended to regularly. During some six-week periods, an out-of-class play or novel will be assigned.

Supplies

Students need pen, paper, and notebook in class each day. Portions of the notebook will serve as elements in your blog account. Restrictions and further details about establishing your blog will be discussed in later classes.

A class set of text books will be available. Any student wishing to check out a book for home use can do so from the school book room.

Notebooks should have at least 4 sections to organize class materials.

- Freewrite Assignments
- Class Notes
- Vocabulary
- Returned Tests, Papers, and Quizzes.

Policies

Attendance Requirements:

Due to the nature of the course and the in-class exercises, communication with instructor is paramount. Emergency situations do happen, but keep in mind: an absence is an absence regardless if the situation is medical or legal emergency. Budget your time accordingly.

- A student arriving 10-minutes after class starting time will be considered absent.

Late Paper/Missed Assignment Policy:

Students will write a minimum of **four essays**. Some quantities of outside reading should be expected.

- Since the progress of this class depends on essays turned in on time, **late essays will be penalized one grade level. I do not accept e-mails with any assignment-attachments.**
- There will be numerous in-class assignments and group activities. Completing these assignments earn you daily points. Since these are based on specific lectures, you must be present on the day the in-class/group assignment is given and collected. If absent, be sure to check the class website for material missed: <http://www.davidglensmith.com/huntsville/>.
- On the return day after an absence, make an appointment during Mr. Smith's conference period to makeup work.
- Test and quizzes are expected to be made up on the return day. Likewise, late daily work must be made up on the return day during scheduled conference times. Work turned in beyond the conference period will be considered late and will be marked off 10 points per day.
- Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will be dealt with according to HISD polices explained in the student handbook. Incidents will be reported to the appropriate assistant principal.
- A schedule for tutoring before school, at lunch, or after school will be posted. A pass may be required by the hall monitors to come to the class before school.
- Sympathy and understanding go out to students who participate in extra-curricular activities or have part-time jobs. However, since school work is also important, it is vital for students to avoid falling behind.
- Other school policies and procedures can be found in the student handbook.

Phone Policy:

Under instructor's guidelines, phones are permitted in class. However, phones must be silent during instruction segments. *On the other hand, no texting or surfing the net or social media is permitted in the classroom.*

- *The only material on your desktop should be either your Chromebook or notebook paper.*

Chromebook Policy:

If properly utilized these tools can be an asset to your studies. There will be specific designated times when laptops will be considered permissible and will be encouraged for use in the classroom.

Academic Integrity Policy:

All student work for this course must be original to the student and original to the course. Clear evidence of academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will be dealt with according to HISD polices explained in the student handbook. Incidents will be reported to the appropriate assistant principal. Remember, unintended plagiarism is also considered plagiarism. Rhetorical formulas will be provided for to prevent such cases.

Parent Contact

The best way to contact me is through the school e-mail, dgsmith@huntsville-isd.org/ . Messages can also be left for me at the high school office at (936)435-6100.

Parents are encouraged to check grades on the parent's grade portal on the district website. Details and a password can be found from any assistant principal's office.