



Course Title
2021-2022

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Course Description

Welcome to **Freshman English!!** During this course, you will explore various genres of literature as we continue to build on skills you learned in middle school. You will create different pieces of writing, working on adjusting tone and style for alternative types of writing. We will work on grammar and conventions as well as reading comprehension and textual analysis. These practical skills will prepare you for a multitude of paths after high school as well as give you a foundation for appreciating the superior achievements of a multicultural society.

Course Objectives

Students will review and practice grammar and writing conventions along with understanding the importance of word selection and style choices. Students will learn to effectively use Latin and Greek prefixes and suffixes to achieve deeper meaning and greater accuracy in writing. Students will be able to read, analyze, and comprehend grade level text, and complete writing assignments of various types and complexity. Students will practice engaging in academic discussions, and work collaboratively in groups to complete assignments. Students will complete research on various topics and submit finished projects and essays using proper formats, MLA style, and appropriate citation methods.

Freshman Course Units

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Narrative Writing	Informative Writing	Argumentative Writing	Literary Analysis and Comparing Media
Unit Theme: "All for Love"	Unit Theme: "Dreams and Aspirations"	Unit Theme: "Empathy"	Unit Theme: "Leadership"
Romeo & Juliet	The Necklace	To Kill a Mockingbird	The Odyssey
Student Selections for Research and Essay	Student Selections for Research and Essay	Student Selections for Research and Essay	Student Selections for Research and Essay
Vocabulary/Grammar/ Writing Targets	Vocabulary/Grammar/ Writing Targets	Vocabulary/Grammar/ Writing Targets	Vocabulary/Grammar/ Writing Targets
Storyboard Drawings	Storyboard Drawings	Storyboard Drawings	Storyboard Drawings

Materials

Chromebook, pens and/or pencils; college-ruled binder paper; 1 work binder with dividers

Skyward Grading

*SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Score Method	Term Grades (MHS Policy)	Grading Scale (MHS Policy)
Total Points	<u>Semester 1</u> Q1/Q2 80% combined EOC 20% <u>Semester 2</u> Q3/Q4 80% combined EOC 20%	A=90%-100% B=80%-89% C=70%-79% D=60%-69% F=Below 60%

Make-Up Work (MHS Policy)

Papers, assignments, tests, etc. that were announced while the student was in attendance prior to the absence are due to be submitted or completed on the day the student returns to school. A student will be allowed two (2) school days for each day of excused absence to make up material presented during the absence. Make-up time is not to exceed ten (10) days from the time a student returns to school after an absence. Additional time may be granted at the principal's discretion under extenuating circumstances. When a student has been absent for three (3) or more consecutive school days due to illness or excused absence the parent or student may call the Attendance Office to request make-up homework be sent to the office for pick-up. Please allow 24 hours for teachers to respond before coming to the office to pick up work. **In the case of pre-arranged absences, it is the responsibility of the student to contact individual teachers for any make-up work prior to the absence.**

Late Work

An assignment is considered late if it is not turned in precisely by the due date and/or time of day required. **Late assignments will receive a fifty percent deduction.** Homework and classwork assignments will not be accepted one week following the due date. Late essays will be accepted and graded for fifty percent credit until the day of the final exam. Class time is given to complete both short assignments and longer essays. Students are responsible for managing their time in order to avoid late penalties.

Technology Note: Do not wait until the last minute to complete assignments. It never fails that when you do, the computer freezes, the printer runs out of ink, the document won't save, etc. Save your work often and in multiple places. You are given ample time to prepare your assignments. Excuses because of electronics **will not** be accepted. You have access to computers at the school and at the public library. If you wait until the night before to complete the assignment, you are more likely to be a victim of Murphy's Law—anything that can go wrong, will go wrong. If you need to print an assignment, please do so before class. **Do not ask to print as you walk into class.** Be prepared. **Make an effort, not an excuse.**

Quarantine Expectations

Students absent due to quarantine are expected to:

- Log into class via Google Classroom every day at the beginning of the scheduled class time in order to get the lesson and materials for the day.
- Do their work on pace with the rest of the class.
- Communicate via regular school email or through Google Classroom with any questions.

Grades

All assignments, including daily grades (formative assessments), are FINAL after a student has turned it in. Those assignments cannot be altered by the student, and the grade WILL NOT be altered by the teacher for any reason. ***EXCEPTION: The teacher may decide to allow corrections or revisions on an assignment, and this exception will be offered to all students for the same assignment. Otherwise, the grade is final.

All grammar tests (under the summative assessment category) can be retaken three (3) times by the student UNTIL the day before the final. All other test and quiz grades ARE FINAL AND CANNOT BE CHANGED.

NO assignments, quizzes, tests, etc. can be re-taken or made up after the final exam. ALL GRADES AFTER THE FINAL EXAM ARE FINAL. The teacher will not "bump" a grade or add points to an assignment simply because a student is "close" to a certain letter grade. Example: If your final grade is an 89.9% or 59.9%, THAT IS YOUR FINAL GRADE. Any 'bump' to a higher grade is solely at the discretion of your instructor, and will depend on many factors, such as effort, past performance, or history.

**Students must make all efforts to improve a grade BEFORE the final exam.

Note on grading late work/missed work due to absence: Any late work (regardless of reason, including absence) will not be "rush graded" for any reason. The teacher will grade the work as soon as possible, but students should not request that the teacher grade the work quickly in order to avoid home consequences and/or meet athletic requirements. Students can feel free to remind the teacher that they have turned something in, but they should not ask for it to be graded by a certain date.

Classroom Rules and Procedures

Be on time and in your assigned seat when the bell rings.

Check the front board/projector for today's lesson and plan.

Begin bell work when the bell rings.

Be **prepared each day** with the appropriate materials.

Be respectful to the teacher and to fellow classmates. Avoid inappropriate language or behavior.

Do not throw anything.

Stay on task and on topic.

Dress appropriately. Please refer to your Student Handbook for the current dress code. "I didn't know we couldn't wear that," is no excuse.

Seating chart: There will be a seating chart once we all decide that the configuration we have is working for everyone. I reserve the right to to change the seating chart for any reason.

Cell phones and laptops: See the electronic devices policy below.

Food and Drink: None are allowed. Only exception is by previous arrangements.

Dress Code: Please refer to the Dress Code in your Student Handbook.

Daily Procedures:

- Housekeeping: Before leaving, clean up your area of all trash; return supplies; clean table area

Consequences

Tardiness and/or absences- You are considered tardy if you are not in the classroom at the end of the tardy bell. You will also be considered tardy if you have not made it to your seat and started the bell ringer one minute after the tardy bell. Students that are excessively tardy will lose points on bell ringers and/or exit slips.

Inappropriate behavior on school grounds will not be tolerated. Any violation of classroom norms and expectations will be considered inappropriate behavior. You will be asked to refrain from said behavior upon the first violation and parents will be notified. For a second violation you will be asked to wait in the hall for a conference with me and parents will be notified. For a third violation a call will be made to your parents and a conference will be requested with a counselor or other administrator. Steps one and two may be skipped if infraction is deemed insubordinate or threatening. At teacher's discretion, student may be referred for detention.

Academic Integrity (MHS Policy)

All work submitted by a student must represent his/her own ideas, concepts, and current understanding. All material found during research must be correctly documented/cited to avoid plagiarism. Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing on course assignments or exams will lose credit for that assignment or exam. If a student gives their work to another to be copied,

that student will also receive a zero on the assignment. The teacher will notify parents. Students may be subject to disciplinary action, including a parent conference. There will be absolutely no make-up opportunities on assignments that have received a zero for plagiarism.

Student & Parent Resources

School Website: <http://mhs.ms134.org/>

Google Classroom: <http://classroom.google.com>

Exceptions/Accommodations

The rules, procedures, expectations, etc. outlined in the syllabus may be changed or altered by the teacher at any time, and students will be made aware of changes.

The teacher may make an exception for a student going through an extraordinary experience/circumstance that requires a change in policy.

****ANY STUDENT with a legal, documented accommodation is ALWAYS exempt from rules, procedures, etc. as outlined in this syllabus THAT INTERFERE WITH THEIR LEGAL ACCOMMODATION. All accommodations will be met by the classroom teacher. Students should make themselves aware of their accommodations so that they can work with the classroom teacher, using the accommodation to make them successful.

Electronic Devices Policy

Personal Electronic Devices (Cell Phones/Ipods/EReaders/Etc.)

Middleton High School issues laptops (1:1 program) for student use which makes the use of cell phones during class time a non-negotiable, unnecessary accessory. Due to the increasing amount of distractions, behavioral issues, cheating, and non-educational use in the classroom, cell phones **WILL NOT BE** allowed in Mr Boynton's classroom. Students will be required to relinquish his/her cell phone into a cell phone storage garage at the start of class. If you have special permission from the administration to keep your phone on you, please notify Mr. Boynton and he will confirm it. While in your possession, however, cell phones must be kept out of sight during class. Raise your hand if you need to step outside to use your phone. Students will not be able to access the cell phone storage garage except at the beginning and end of class with teacher permission. Cell phones which become visible at any time for any reason will be sent to the front office. **All cell phones that are sent to the front office can only be picked up by a parent/guardian after school.** Laptops and any other electronic devices that are used inappropriately or are out without being given permission will also be sent to the office to be picked up by a parent.

I have read and understand the content, policies, and procedures outlined in this syllabus.

Student Signature

Date

Student Name (Printed)

Parent Signature (Parents have already received a copy of this syllabus)

