



West Potomac High School

English 12 Syllabus

2015-2016

Instructors:

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English 12 Course Overview

This course provides a wide variety of instruction that will lead students through British and World Literature. The objective of this course are to expose students to a variety of readings and writings such as the novel, drama, short stories, and poetry. Class writings will include essays, persuasive writing, analytical writing, personal narrative and creative writing. Completion of this course fulfills the English 12 course requirement. Successful completion of this course will prepare students for college or university courses as well as integration into the workforce.

Course Texts

Each student will have access to required texts. When necessary, hard copy textbooks will be available to students with specialized accommodations. The cost to replace a lost and/or damaged book depends on the text. A variety of primary and secondary sources will be used throughout the course. Hard copies of these readings will be available to students in class; when possible, electronic copies will be available via the class Blackboard site.

Although text selection may vary due to class level and novel availability, all English 12 teachers will choose full-class readings from the list of texts below:

The Glass Castle by Jeanette Walls
Macbeth by William Shakespeare
Beowulf (author unknown)
Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi
Various short stories, poems, and articles

Please note that some of the books on these lists may contain mature content and/or controversial material (i.e. offensive language, violence, and/or implied or explicit sexual situations). Copies of classroom texts can be made available to parents upon request and alternative readings will be provided if a parent objects to any of the listed materials. The following resources can be used to see book reviews and get more information about the books we will use in our class:

- Fairfax County Library <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/>
- Bartleby.com: Great Books Online <http://www.bartleby.com>
- Book Reporter <http://www.bookreporter.com>
- Book Spot <http://www.bookspot.com/>
- Teen Reads <http://www.teenreads.com>

Assessments and Grading:

The focus of assessment is to provide feedback on a student’s learning and to measure the student’s level of performance. Teachers use information generated through assessments to reflect and then make adjustments in the learning process that increase student learning over time.

The English 12 course uses a weighted grading system based on assessing the following skills:

- Conventions & Formatting 10%
- Reading Comprehension & Content Knowledge 10%
- Application: 15%
- Organization & Clarity 20%
- Analysis & Synthesis 20%
- Purposeful Control of Language and Medium 25%

Student's quarter grades and skill mastery will be evaluated through, but not limited to, class work, homework, quizzes, tests, and projects. Larger, more involved assignments will be worth a greater portion of the student's grade. The student’s teacher will communicate the individual points and/or weighted percentages.

FCPS Grading Scale:

<i>F</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>D+</i>	<i>C-</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>C+</i>	<i>B-</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>B+</i>	<i>A-</i>	<i>A</i>
Below 64	64-66	67-69	70-72	73-76	77-79	80-82	83-86	87-89	90-92	93-100

Late Work and “Second Chance” Policy

Failing to turn in an assignment on time means that a student will miss an opportunity to develop or refine their skills. However, students who miss assignments will have the opportunity to make arrangements with their teacher to receive alternative assistance and support. This will largely be done through Wolverine Time and after school.

Because process work is an opportunity to practice the skills that students are developing, not all work will be graded. Students will receive feedback on their practice work, which will help them develop their skills so that they can demonstrate their abilities on the graded assessments.

If the student has any concerns about meeting an assignment deadline, he or she should communicate a need for an extension at least 48 hours prior to the assignment due date.

Tardies and Absences

All students are expected to adhere to West Potomac High School’s attendance and tardy policies. A copy of the tardy policy will be posted on the class Blackboard site.

SHOUT

Students wishing to participate in SHOUT should notify their teacher by the beginning of 4th quarter. Good standing in class is a non-negotiable requirement for participation in the program.

Honor Code/Academic Integrity

Instructors will not tolerate cheating or plagiarism in any form. It is the instructors' expectation that students will not give or receive unauthorized aid on any assignment. Students caught cheating will still be expected to complete the assigned work, or its equivalent, to demonstrate mastery of the skill or knowledge the original assignment intended to measure. Should an instance of suspected cheating occur, instructors will follow the procedure indicated in the West Potomac High School Honor Code.

Teacher Communication

Teachers will endeavor to answer all student and parent emails within 48 hours of receipt.

Students should talk with teacher if they have questions about their grades or assignments.

Progress reports can be viewed through Parent SIS Access. Teachers will update grades each week.



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English 12 Syllabus Signature Sheet

2015-2016

Student Name (printed):

I have read and understand the expectations and procedures described above for English 12. Throughout the year I agree to follow and support them, and when I find that I cannot follow and support them, I agree to discuss my concerns with my instructor, or a representative of the English 12 team.

(Signature of student)

(Date of signature)

Parent/Guardian Name (printed):

I have read the expectations and procedures described above and will support them. Throughout the year I agree to support them, and when I find that I cannot follow and support them, I agree to discuss my concerns with my student's instructor, or a representative of the English 12 team. I have reviewed the list of books that may be used in this class and will contact the course instructor if I have any concerns.

(Signature of parent/guardian)

(Date of signature)

****Please write any questions or concerns on the reverse of this paper or contact the course instructor at the email provided.****