

Sophomore English Course Description
Ms. Reid

Room: 23

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Enrollment Codes:

Google Classroom	Turnitin.com Enrollment Key: macaroni
2nd Period: z3ifl8 4th Period: 2xnxzx 5th Period: cw9916	2nd Period: 18682157 4th Period: 18682182 5th Period: 18682170

Course Description

This course will engage students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature and nonfiction texts. Students will work to hone their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills as they grapple with the big issues that we must all consider at some point in our lives, such as, “What is my universe of obligation?” and, “Who am I?” Students will elevate their writing skills through much practice and careful study of the craft of writing.

Course Overview

<i>Fall Semester</i>	<i>Spring Semester</i>
<i>Catcher in the Rye</i> , J.D. Salinger <i>Night</i> , Elie Wiesel <i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i> , Maya Angelou <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> , Lorraine Hansberry	<i>The Bean Trees</i> , Barbara Kingsolver <i>The Kite Runner</i> , Khaled Hosseini <i>The Stranger</i> , Albert Camus Rhetorical Unit with Speech

Assignments

- I. Reading – approximately 80% of your homework will be reading. Reading assignments will be 15-20 pages of a novel per night.
- II. Reading Quizzes – Can occur daily; form and length vary; all are unannounced.
- III. Graded Class Discussions – Students will prepare for formal discussions and will be graded on the quality and quantity of their preparation and their oral contributions to the discussion.
- IV. Take-home Essays – Students will draft and edit approximately 3 essays per quarter.
- V. Projects and Alternate Assessments – Students will have opportunities to exhibit their talents and other learning styles through individual and group projects.
- VI. Presentations and Speeches – Students will prepare oral presentations to deliver in front of the class.
- VII. Creative Response – Students will periodically prepare non-print, artistic, or performance-based responses to texts
- VIII. Poetry Response Journals – Students will write several responses to poetry using a variety of analytical techniques

Behavioral Expectations

A. Academic Integrity – Students who commit a breach of academic integrity will receive a 0 on that assignment. Some examples of breaches of academic integrity in this class include:

- ◇ Visiting Sparknotes, Shmoop, or any other online lit guides
- ◇ Searching for quotes online to use in your essay
- ◇ Copying anything (even just one sentence) word for word without proper citation
- ◇ Copying ideas without proper citation
- ◇ Excessive help from parents, tutors, or friends
- ◇ Discussing or overhearing information about a test or quiz
- ◇ Claiming you did something you didn't do but were assigned to

B. Absences/Makeup Work – Students must clear all absences in the main office.

Unexcused Absences: Students will receive a 0 for assignments, quizzes, and exams that occur during an unexcused absence.

Excused absences: Work is due when the student returns to school. If students are unable to complete the work by that time, they need to email or speak with the teacher immediately upon returning to school about the assignments they have missed.

C. Late Work – Work can be turned in late at a penalty of 10% off per day late. **Discussion prep and rough drafts cannot be turned in late.**

D. Field Trips/ExtraCurricular Activities – If students miss class to participate in an extracurricular activity (sporting event, rally, crew regatta, etc.), they must see their teacher **before** their absence to take any quizzes or exams, turn in any homework that is due, and/or pick up the day's assignments. If they fail to do so, they will not be allowed to make up their work. Stopping by to tell their teacher that they are leaving right before or in the middle of class is not sufficient notice. Leaving without checking in with the teacher at all is even worse.

E. Bathroom/Locker Runs – Students may go to the bathroom during class a few times a semester as long as they go when we are doing independent work and they don't abuse the privilege.

F. Eating in Class – Food can be eaten in class when there is enough to share with everyone and it is tied to the curriculum.

Grading

Grades are determined on a point system. Grades will not be rounded up. Grades are not negotiable.

- A 90-100
- B 80-89
- C 70-79
- D 60-69
- F 0-59

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Student Information

I, _____, have read Ms. Reid’s Course Description. I have the following questions:
(Print Student Name)

Something you should know about me is:

(Optional) My preferred gender pronouns are: (circle one) he/him/his she/her/hers they/their/theirs

(Optional) My racial and/or ethnic background(s) is/are: _____

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Best contact info: _____

Parent Information

I, _____, have read Ms. Reid’s Course Description. I have the following questions:
(Print Parent Name)

Something I would like to share about my child is:

Parent Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Best contact info: _____