

DEBAKEY HIGH SCHOOL FOR HEALTH PROFESSONS

English IV Magnet

2020-2021 Academic Year

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Welcome to English IV Magnet!

Together we should have an exciting and challenging year ahead. I will do all that I can to help you to succeed. By communicating and working together, we will meet the challenge. In order to start a year off smoothly, I have prepared the following information for you. Please read everything carefully. Take it home, share it with your parents, have it signed, and then place it into your English binder as the first page.

A Course Overview and Syllabus with Performance Guidelines, Rules and Procedure

Textbooks and Resources

Pearson Literature Textbook (Digital Resources in HUB)

The Elements of Language (Course 12) (HUB)

MLA Handbook, 7th Edition

Vocabulary Power Plus 12th Level/Vocabulary.com

Please obtain a copy of the following book

Atlas Shrugged by Ayn Rand

Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe

Course Description

Prerequisite: English III Magnet for English IV Magnet; Summer Reading Books

In this course students refine the writing, research, and reading skills introduced in the 11th grade English III Magnet course. The course requires that you read minimum of 150 pages per week, either on assigned in-class or outside readings from selected works of fiction and non-fiction literature. Read minimum 150 pages per week. A related goal is the development of critical thinking skills. Writing assignments emphasize argumentation and persuasion. Students will also write a research paper and a literary analysis.

Reading

Readings, both fictional and non-fictional, will be assigned as they relate to our various writing assignments. Reading excerpts will be taken from various texts, paperbacks. The reading of a novel should be constant. You must keep a Dialectical Journal of all readings. Consider this a Major Requirement. The first major test given is when you will find out how important this is. You will be given a separate handout to explain this journal.

Attendance

Class periods are extremely important and your attendance and active and energetic participation are the necessities for you to be successful in this course. Please be on time! If you know you are going to be

absent, please let me know. Make sure you have a peer in class from whom you can find out what went on during the period you were away. Acquire someone's phone number and call him or her. If you have more than three absences, I can only issue an S for Conduct Grade since I do not have all the opportunities to observe your behavior on Team.

Vocabulary

Vocabulary lists will be given as needed, but vocabulary is primarily your responsibility. Follow these guidelines:

When reading or when given an assignment that contains words that you do not know, you should enter them in the vocabulary section of your notebook. Assignments on readings will never be so easy that you will not encounter new words. You need to define the word and write the sentence or an original one.

Only one major list will be provided per six weeks. You will be expected to learn these as they related to the unit, which is being studied. *Before the end of each six weeks, I will check this section of your notebook and give a grade based on your accomplishment in this area.* REMEMBER: this is your responsibility.

Homework

Homework exists every night of each semester. There is always a book, play, essay, or short stories to read. There is always a composition at some stage in the writing process on which to work. There are numerous usage rules to review, to learn, and to analyze each week, and there is a notebook to keep organized.

Whatever class work is left unfinished will automatically become your homework. And the homework will be due next class. No late work of such will be accepted at all. Therefore, in order to enjoy most of your after-school hour homework free, you just have to intelligently make good use of every class minute. The time wasted in class eventually will be made up by you after class.

Late Work Policy

Please refer to the English Department Policies.

Make-up Work Policy

Please refer to the English Department Policies.

Essay Competitions

You may participate in as many essay competitions as you would like. However, you are encouraged to enter those for college scholarships. Those essay contests also offer you opportunities to learn from other writers, and at the same time, you are able to demonstrate your skills in various forms of writing.

Evaluation

You will have each written assignment posted on the HUB. *You should keep a copy of everything you turned in.* Some grades will be determined by the progress you make and at times and by the effort of your participation. This school year, many grades will be determined by whether or not you have attended Team Class on time and completed assigned activities on time.

Through responses and questions presented either orally or in writing, the students will demonstrate concern and involvement with ideas and values expressed in literature and with those in their own lives. Through discussions and essays, students will demonstrate ways to analyze literature and write about literature.

Through written research papers, students will demonstrate skills in the research process.

Through discussions, written reports, essay examinations, objective tests, and oral and written projects, the students will demonstrate knowledge of:

Selected works of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, drama and film

Man’s relationship to himself, to others and to the universe through identifying themes in literature

Man’s values and how he defends these values

All forms of style analysis

GRADING:	1st	2nd, 4th & 5th	3rd & 6th
40%	Sommer Reading Project 1 Essay as Common Assessment	1 Major (Summer Reading Project) 1 Essay as Common Assessment	1 Major (Teacher’s Choice) 1 Essay as Common Assessment
40%	6 Quizzes/Class Activities (Max)	6 Quizzes/Class Activities (Max)	6 Quizzes/Class Activities (Max)
20%	Homework (Lessons Related; 2 Minimum)	Homework (Lessons Related; 2 Minimum)	Homework (Lessons Related; 2 Minimum)

***Tests, exams and quizzes are considered confidential materials that are not allowed to be taken out of the classroom. They will be in the HUB/OnTrack, so you must use school provided laptop for Team and course assessments.**

Retake Policy

Major test as defined by the English department:

Please refer to the English Department Policies.

Scholastic Dishonesty

Please read and remember the Student Disciplinary Rules in the HISD Student Handbook. Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty are strictly prohibited by the HISD system policy and the rules of this class.

Cheating on a test includes:

Copying from another student’s test paper; using materials during the test that are not authorized by the teacher

Collaborating with another student without authorization

Using misappropriated test materials and/or answer keys

Plagiarism means using someone else’s work and not telling. You must document every quotation, every paraphrase, every concept harvested from the work of another writer.

Students lack citations in rough draft for the first time, student receives...	70 %
Students lack citations on the final draft (after having been warned on the rough draft), student receives...	0%
Students are taking a timed writing, some paraphrasing is accepted, and no page numbers are needed	n/a

***If at any time you plagiarized, a zero will be issued and conduct grade will be reduced to a P which will be reflected on your school transcript. So do not take any chances because the damage caused by any poor judgment will be too colossal to you than a bad grade will.**

Class Rules

See student *Class Rules* handout and your time tracker.

Supplies (for use at home)

- Two Red Pens
- Two Different Color Highlighters
- A Binder with Dividers (labeled Notes, Homework, Vocabulary, Grammar, Writing)
- A Journal/Bell Work Book (College Ruled)
- Index Cards
- Black, Blue Ink Pens
- Pencils, Easers and a Pencil Sharpener

Anything Not Covered Here

All other issues not discussed here will be subject to the policies in the Student’s Handbook and my discretion.

Thank you for reading the information. I expect you to do your very best each class period. In return, I will put my best effort into each class that I teach. If at any time you are having difficulties in this class, please let me know and I will be more than happy to help you.

Student Name (Print)_____ Parent Signature _____ Date_____