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English III Course Syllabus 2021-22

Instructor: Clifton Morris

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Room: 2113

Office Hours: Monday (2:23 pm-3:09 pm) & Tues-Fri (12:00 pm- 1:00 pm)

Course Content:

English III focuses on higher order thinking skills in the process of reading and writing and the study of American literature. Speaking, listening, and viewing skills are further developed with an emphasis on analysis. Grammar and SAT vocabulary study skills are stressed. This is a two-semester course.

Text:

The following text will be used:

- My Perspectives Texas English III
- The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn – Mark Twain
- Monster (summer reading)– Walter Myers

About the Teacher:

I am a Houston ISD graduate (High School for Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice). I received my Bachelor of Arts-English from the University of Houston – Downtown, and a Master of Science-Sports Management from Drexel University. I am currently the head basketball coach here at Waltrip High School.

Class Objective:

- The student will have mastered the reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills as written in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English 3. The student will explore the modes of writing through essays, quick writes, and group work, in addition to reading a variety of literature,

to enhance his/her knowledge of the literary world, heighten awareness of North American culture, and improve reading and writing skills

Grading Scale:

- Participation/Homework – 20%
- Test/Quiz – 30%
- Classwork – 50%

Attendance and Participation:

Students are expected to actively participate in class. This consist of teacher led activities, peer to peer interaction, and student led work. Attendance is required daily. If a student misses class, they have three days to turn in work that was do in their absence. If extended time is needed this needs to be communicated with the teacher

Required Material:

- Computer
- Pen/Pencil
- Notebook

Unit Overview

Unit 1

Unit 1: Gilded Fools and Threadbare Saints In Unit 1, designed with US History in mind, students read texts in a variety of genres to consider overarching questions about the American experience while also reviewing the metacognitive strategies of skilled readers. The unit begins with diagnostic personal essays and closes with argumentative essays. In addition to addressing the focus standards of the unit, students engage in daily supported independent reading and low-stakes writing

Unit 2

Unit 2: Glory and Destruction Unit 2 explores how the concepts of glory and destruction are intertwined. Throughout this unit, students read in multiple genres in order to gain deeper understandings of the theme. The unit closes with a literary analysis. In addition to addressing the focus standards of the unit, students engage in daily supported independent reading and low-stakes writing

Unit 3

Unit 3: The Greedy and the Oppressed Unit 3 asks students to explore big ideas around greed and oppression through a series of short fiction and multi-genre supporting texts. Through these texts, students analyze the elements of fiction. The unit closes with narrative pieces in genres of their choosing. In addition to addressing the focus standards of the unit, students engage in daily supported independent reading and low-stakes writing.

Unit 4

Unit 4: The War for Rights Unit 4 explores the civil rights era. Students read a series of speeches and other thematically-related texts. As students closely study the writings of others, they break down their understandings through robust rhetorical analysis. In addition to addressing the focus standards of the unit, students engage in daily supported independent reading and low-stakes writing.

Unit 5

Unit 5: Pop Culture and Propaganda – The Path to the New Millennium In Unit 5, students read and analyze pop culture from the years leading up to the turn of the millennium. Throughout the unit, students

consider the effects of pop culture on American society and choose texts upon which to base literary analyses.

Unit 6

Unit 6: A Changing World Unit 6 explores the social injustices occurring in our community, country, and around the world. Students read in a variety of genres and write informational essays based on genre studies. In addition to addressing the focus standards of the unit, students engage in daily supported independent reading and low-stakes writing.