

10th Grade Honors English

Tesla STEM High School ~ 2017-2018

Mrs. Sheffels ~ Email: jsheffels@lwsd.org ~ Room 221

Office hours: 7:00-7:30 Mon-Fri ~ 2:00-3:00 Mon/Tues ~ 2:00-2:30 Thurs ~ *appointments recommended*

Course Description:

This course introduces you to the genres of literature including poetry, drama, short stories, and novels. Critical thinking and self-expression are emphasized in the study of vocabulary, grammar, usage, and the fundamental elements of writing. Literature and writing will focus on themes of knowledge, responsibility, the power of individual choice, and the connection of humanities with STEM. Writing will be intensive in preparing you for the rigor of upper grades. The key works we will study include:

- Contemporary essays and articles
- "The Grand Challenges of Engineering"
- Selected poetry (emphasis on the Romantics)
- Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*
- Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451* and/or Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*
- William Shakespeare's *Macbeth*
- Nonfiction selections

Supply list:

Dedicated folder for English
3x5 notecards
Pencils
Highlighters (3 colors)

Red, blue, and black ballpoint pens (+ one extra color of your choice—NOT purple)
College ruled paper (loose-leaf)
Sticky notes

Course Objectives

Throughout the year, you will work to develop skills important to literary and STEM study. These include:

- Careful and analytic reading of academic prose, fiction, drama, and poetry
- Participating in classroom dialogue and Socratic seminars
- Writing logically coherent claims
- Developing and writing clearly organized and sustained arguments to support claims
- Composing literary analysis essays, narratives, and poems
- Clearly presenting ideas orally to an audience and using digital media in presentations
- Developing research skills and correct formatting style
- Identifying and incorporating literary devices and the 6+1 Traits of writing
- Successfully collaborating with others

Student Expectations:

You are expected to be respectful, responsible, cooperative, and participative at all times. You are also expected to come to class with our current class novel or assignment and your district-assigned laptops. It is your responsibility to daily check PowerSchool, the online Learning Management System (LMS) adopted by the Lake Washington School District. In addition to the calendars in the classroom, assignments with

due dates are regularly posted on PowerSchool, along with relevant handouts and resources. Assignments due the next day are usually announced in class, but they will be posted to PowerSchool no later than 4 pm the day before they are due. Please get in the habit of checking the class site after this time. There may be times during the year when you will also be required to post work to this website (this is a closed site; your work is only able to be viewed by other students in my class and their parents.) Personal electronics are not to be used in class without explicit teacher approval and could result in the loss of your device until the end of the school day. Computer or cell phone games are NEVER allowed in class.

Assignment Policy:

You are expected to come to class with your assignment completed (and/or printed or uploaded, if required) on the date it is due. Homework is due at the beginning of class and is a valuable part of the learning process. Because you will miss out on important foundational skills if you get off track, late daily homework assignments are accepted for 50% credit the next class day only, provided we have not gone through them in class. Larger papers or projects will result in a deduction of 25% per day for late submissions within two (2) school days. After that cut-off, no late work is accepted. Use a planner, check PowerSchool, or find a system that works for you to keep track of your responsibilities. If your first plan of attack doesn't work, work on your problem-solving skills, and develop a Plan B. If you cannot print, you can email it to me before the due date by 7:30 a.m. It is your responsibility to verify that PowerSchool or Turnitin.com has received your assignment. You should be able to view your submissions in PowerSchool. Turnitin offers a preview screen to confirm and sends a confirmation email. Make sure you received that email or can confirm your upload is in your library in order to avoid late penalties.

Grading Policy

You will receive a progress report after the 1st and 3rd quarters, but quarter grades are cumulative throughout each semester. Grades are based on the following percentage system:

A = 90-100%

B+ = 87-89%

B = 83-86%

B - = 80-82%

C+ = 77-79%

C = 73-76%

C - = 70-72%

NC = 69% and below

Student absences/Make-up policy:

You are responsible for finding out what you missed when you are absent. Check PowerSchool for assignments and due dates when you are gone and check with a classmate for discussion notes. Handouts can be found on PowerSchool or hardcopies are often on the front table in the classroom. Homework is due on the day you return unless you have notified me of an illness or made other arrangements. Make-up quizzes/tests are due within the week they are assigned or within two (2) days of returning to school—these are YOUR responsibility to schedule and must be made up during office hours—not during class. Short absences will not extend the due date of long-term projects. Students going on vacation are expected to notify me in advance so we can develop a plan that will work for both of us. In order to maintain your grade, it is crucial that you make up all work in a timely manner and that you do not have excessive absences or tardies.

Academic Honesty:

In this class, you have opportunities to share ideas and collaborate on projects. However, you are entirely responsible for your own work. All forms of cheating, plagiarism, or fabrication, including submitting any work product that the student misrepresents as his or her work product for the purpose of fulfilling any assignment or task required as part of the student’s course of studies is considered dishonest. This includes the unauthorized use of electronic devices, the use of unauthorized material or unauthorized communication of any kind during testing, and the aiding and abetting of academic dishonesty of others. If you choose to disregard these guidelines, you will receive a zero on the offending assignment or test. If the behavior continues, you will not receive credit for the course. Please ask me or another teacher if you are concerned about correctly citing sources or if you are concerned about appropriate times and/or ways to share/collaborate your work with others. Throughout the year, you will be required to submit most projects/papers to www.Turnitin.com.

Communication/Office Hours:

As sophomores, you need to develop the skill of communicating with your teachers. You may always contact me by e-mail, jsheffels@lwsd.org, regarding any comments, questions, or concerns. I will respond within 48 hours during the work week. I do not access voicemail. I am also available to meet by appointment during office hours. Please do not wait until you are overwhelmed to meet with me. Together we can develop a plan to help you get on track; I am here to help you get the most out of my class.

Please read and discuss these expectations carefully with your parent/guardian. Then provide your signature below. Return the bottom, signed page to Mrs. Sheffels by Friday, September 8. Keep the remaining expectations in your folder for any future reference.

Mrs. Sheffels
Honors English 10
Syllabus 2017-2018

STUDENT NAME (PRINT)

(last) _____, (first) _____

My signature below indicates that I have read and understand the course description and expectations for tenth grade honors English at STEM. I agree to abide by the policies and procedures outlined herein. I understand I am responsible for my own actions, behaviors, and academic performance.

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

PARENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____