

Honors College Prep English Syllabus

University of Colorado "Literary Studies" (3 semester credits)

Philosophical basis: Students in this class should demonstrate their abilities to apply independently the skills and knowledge learned from freshmen, sophomore, and junior composition, research, speech, and literature courses as they read and write from contemporary and literary prompts. I will assume you know how to write in different essay modes (narration, description, exposition, comparison/contrast, persuasion), and I will expect you to apply those skills at the higher cognitive levels (application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation). At the college level you will be expected to do this, so this course is designed to provide you with opportunities to practice and improve these skills. This is not a class designed to reteach these skills. If you need review of skills, you are in the wrong class. Because students can earn college credit for this course, I will expect you to be performing at the freshman college level, while I provide the support needed for you to achieve at this level. However, I recognize that you may have missed some things along the way. Therefore, take advantage of this opportunity to fill in the gaps in your education before you head off to college.

Educational Goals for this class:

- Knowledge of good usage and inappropriate usage in writing
- Improved style and/organization in writing
- Improvement in accuracy of writing in terms of spelling, grammar, punctuation
- Exposure to and experience in writing different types of writing
 - personal responses to a given prompt
 - personal responses to a work of literature
 - writing a literary explication
 - writing a literary essay
 - a timed essay response
 - different types of tests: multiple choice, matching, short analysis, etc.
 - comparison/contrast either in writing or graphic organizers
 - persuasion
- Working with a group to create a finished project
- Being able to analyze key components of a work or concept; then through independent research synthesize the new material with material covered in class to create a new interpretation or application of the topic, theme, or research. To develop analytical skills that demonstrate the following considerations:
 - Understand the influence of culture and the literary period of a particular work
 - Recognize the significance of socio-historical conditions in a culture that influence the development of particular forms, modes, genres, themes, symbols, and particular ideas
 - Understand major literary forms, genres, and themes and a recognition that these elements recur from one period or culture to another
 - Compare major stages in historical development of forms, modes, genres, themes, and symbols
 - Provide reasoned assessment of the influence and accomplishments of selected individual writers in their own and subsequent times
 - Acquire and incorporate research and analytical skills through work in the library and/or through online databases to create assigned written explications, critiques, or analytical essays
 - Appropriately apply literary terminology in both oral and written analysis of assigned readings
 - Prepare notes from texts to facilitate analytical decisions during class discussions, in-class assignments, quizzes, exams, and personal response essays
 - Actively participate in class discussion, in-class assignments, and formal oral presentations and writing assignments
- To read independently without direction and to walk away with key concepts
- To expand your knowledge of literary terms and concepts. To apply those concepts to a wide variety of literary materials.
- To be able to interpret a literary work accurately and independently within the range of acceptable interpretations.
- To get a taste of what you might expect to experience in a college freshman English class and/or to provide you with the skills to survive your freshman classes.
- Experience with electronic research methods: Internet, various search engines, electronic databases, digital presentation programs (including Powerpoint and Prezi) (as computers are available).

Expectations:

- Students will do readings and compositions on their own outside of class time, as needed.
- Students will present final work in formats that are appropriate for college bound students. This includes using appropriate MLA style guides, formatting final papers appropriately in ink or word-processed, being neat and accurate, and avoiding any type of plagiarism.

- Students will take thorough notes on class discussions, lectures.
- Students will contribute to class discussions.
- Students will assume their fair share of any group assignments.
- Students will attend class regularly and be on time.
- Students will understand the need to complete all readings whether or not they are discussed in class. Students will recognize that undiscussed work may still appear on tests/quizzes.
- Many short reading assignments, PowerPoint presentations, handouts, support materials, and assignments will ONLY be posted on my website. You must access this information somehow: at home, at a friend's, at the library, on a school computer. Failure to access posted material will result in failure. My website is: <http://jonesclassesonline.weebly.com>

Details:

- You are expected to be in class, on time, homework done, and with necessary materials each day. Quizzes are given at the beginning of class. Those arriving late will miss the quizzes and will not be allowed to make them up (unless arriving with teacher/administrator pass).
- Turn in all papers when due. No late papers accepted. See attached Assignment Policy.
- Papers assigned before an excused absence are due the day you return to class. All work assigned during an excused absence must be turned in no later than one week from the day you return to class.
- You are responsible for obtaining make-up work.
- The computers in my rooms are Internet accessible. If you have obtained an Internet access sticker for your ID card, you may use the computers for Internet research; otherwise, you may not.
- Cell phones: Please keep your phone on silent mode so as not to disrupt the class, and please notify your friends and family of your class schedule so they will know not to call during class time.
- Beverages: Beverages are allowed in this class. Please dispose of all residue in the garbage containers in the hall. Please clean up your own messes.
- Feel free at any time to ask for assistance, information, or grades. My planning period is period 5. My office phone is 303-806-2240, and my email is Sheila_Jones@englewood.k12.co.us
- Grades may be accessed at any time through Power School. I encourage you and your parents to check them regularly. If you have any questions or concerns about the posted grades, just come talk to me or contact me by phone or email. See above.

Grading:

Course grades will be determined using a point system. Assignments that will be included in the course grade include quizzes, oral presentations, group or individual projects, quizzes, personal response essays, analytical essays, unit exams, classroom participation, and a final exam. All work is due on the due date. No late work is accepted (unless extreme extenuating conditions exist. And it is the responsibility of the student to discuss this with the instructor, who will make the determination on a case by case basis).

The final grading scale is based upon the following percentages:

90-100% = A

80- 89% = B

*70- 79% =C

60- 69% = D

below 60%= F

* Only grades of C (73-79%) or better, not C- (70-72%), will earn college credit.

Absences and tardies will have a negative impact on your grade from your lack of understanding of key ideas. Students who have unexcused tardies will not be allowed to make up class work or quizzes missed because of the tardy.

Dual Credit Option:

Students may choose to take this class for University of Colorado Denver (UCD) credit. Upon successful completion of the class with a grade of C or better and payment of the UCD tuition, students will earn both EHS credit (10 credits) and UCD credit (3 credits). Those registering for the class will receive specific information regarding this process in the days to come. Note: English 1400 at UCD is a required course for English majors. For students majoring in other areas, this class can count as an English elective or as a humanities credit. Within Colorado, English 1400 is a "guaranteed transfer" course. For students attending universities outside the state or the University of Colorado system, the colleges will decide on a case by case basis whether or not to accept any UCD course for transfer in fulfillment of that college's graduation requirements for a specific major. This is true for any CU Succeed course.