

Catholic Central High School

August 2011

Instructor: Catherine Costantini
Honors English 1
6th Period
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Course Overview:

Honors English 1 is a multi-faceted course that synthesizes the areas of grammar, composition, vocabulary study, and preliminary Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) preparation into an integrated whole. Students will review and master the application of the rules of grammar and punctuation through intensive study, review and also master the application of literary elements to a broad variety of readings, such as short stories, novels, plays, and epics, and review and master the five-paragraph essay format. OGT test preparation will also be introduced.

Goals of the Course:

- Development of a deep understanding of the structure of the English language.
- Review and mastery of the standard forms of correct usage of the English language and practice in using these in daily written work.
- Development of a more extensive writing vocabulary skills
- Practice in generating ideas for writing, selecting and arranging those ideas, determining appropriate means of expressing ideas, and evaluation and revision of the written product.
- Development of literal, interpretive, and critical comprehension reading skills through the study of various forms of literature.
- Introduction to a variety of literary terms and application of these terms to the study of the literature selections.
- Development of research skills from print and electronic sources to locate resources appropriate to the task and gather relevant information.

Texts in Use/Resources

- Primary texts used:
 - *Elements of Literature, Third Course*; Holt, Rinehart and Winston, c. 2003
 - *Writer's Choice: Grammar and Composition, Grade 9, McGraw-Hill c. 2009*
 - *Vocabulary for the High School Student*, Amsco School Publications, Inc., c. 2004
- Supplementary Texts used:
 - *High School Writer's Handbook*
 - *The Call of the Wild*, by Jack London; and another novel of the student's choice
 - The SRA Reading Lab – Reading for Understanding, Level C

Course Requirements:

- Attendance within the requirements set by school policy; that is, no more than eight (8) absences per quarter unless due to extended illness (4 or more consecutive days) verified by a doctor's statement.
- Unit tests and quizzes in literature, grammar and vocabulary/homework assignments as needed
- Varied writing assignments in support of the literature and the development of the student's writing skills
- The study of *The Call of the Wild*.

Course Evaluation/Assessments

- Tests – announced 50%
- Quizzes – unannounced and announced 35%
- Homework as assigned 10%
- Participation 5%

Units of Study:

- Grammar
 - Parts of Speech
 - Parts of a Sentence
 - Phrases
 - Clauses
 - Correct usage
 - Punctuation and mechanics
- Writing:
 - The Writing Process
 - Writing Effective Paragraphs and Essays
 - Types of Writing: Narrative, Persuasive, Expository
 - Assorted portfolio assignments as needed to develop writing skills, rhetoric, and/or interest and appreciation
- Literature
 - Reading Literature Effectively
 - Selections from the Short Story Collections
 - ❖ Facing Monsters
 - ❖ The Human Spirit
 - ❖ Expect the Unexpected
 - ❖ Discoveries
 - Selections from the Nonfiction Collections
 - ❖ We Remember
 - ❖ A Place Called Home
 - ❖ What I Think
 - Selections from the Poetry Collections
 - ❖ See the Miracles
 - ❖ Imagine
 - ❖ The Ways We Are
 - ❖ Say It
 - Drama
 - ❖ *The Miracle Worker* by William Gibson
 - ❖ *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
 - The Epic
 - ❖ The Perilous Journey
- Vocabulary:
 - Designed vocabulary study using context and structure cues
- Testing and reading skills:
 - Beginning preparation for the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT)
 - SRA lab work

General Remarks:

Much of the work of the Honors English 1 class is focused on reading and discussing a wide variety of literature selections. Students must commit themselves to reading these selections independently and thoroughly in order to prepare for the analysis and discussions of these selections during class. This extensive reading program is meant to prepare the students for the intensive literature study in future English classes as well as to hone their reading comprehension skills.

Instruction and practice in the writing process and the grammar skills which support it are both designed to aid students in the development of composition skills that allow them to communicate clearly, precisely, and efficiently, a skill which they will need throughout their academic careers and beyond.