

Name _____

HONORS ENGLISH 1

Mrs. Selfridge

LENGTH OF COURSE: One Year

Theme: A Minority Viewpoint in History and Literature

PREREQUISITES: Grade of A or B in previous English class, appropriate test scores, ability to read and write at advanced levels, passing pre-test, enrollment in Honors History 1. Students must maintain an A or B to remain in this class. Students achieving a C at the quarter may be placed on probation until the semester if he/ she is showing improvement. Any student receiving a D+ or lower will be automatically transferred to English 1. No student receiving a C at the end of semester 2 will be recommended for Honors English 2.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Honors English 1 is designed to meet the needs of ninth grade students planning to take Honors History 1 and other honors classes at PGHS and to prepare students for university level work. This demanding and challenging class places emphasis on analytical reading, expository writing, critical thinking, cooperative learning, and in depth interpretation of the four genres of literature: the novel, the play, poetry and short story. The class curriculum is linked with the Honors History 1 class, and students will be expected to discover, study and understand the connections between literature and history.

Reading List: Titles will be adjusted to best serve the class. (* denotes Core Works)

April Morning, Fast

Edith Hamilton's *Mythology*

Man the Myth Maker

The Iliad, Homer

The Odyssey, Homer

Farewell to Manzanar, Houston

*Ishi**, Kroeber

Pudd'nhead Wilson, Twain

To Kill a Mockingbird, Lee

*Romeo and Juliet** Shakespeare

Merchant of Venice, Shakespeare

Elements of Style, Strunk and White (Writing text)

Excerpts from the following:

Us and Them, A History of Intolerance in America (Carnes)

United States in Literature,

The Jungle, Sinclair

A People's History of the United States (Zinn)

Other articles, short stories and current events relevant to the joint curriculum

Course Objectives:

1. To encourage in-depth reading and critical thinking.
2. To write critically by using effective language and organization.
3. To understand the links between History and English.
4. To gain an understanding of the basics of grammar and conventions of language.
5. To increase knowledge and usage of vocabulary from the works studied.
6. To teach cooperative learning as a process.
7. To aid students in expressing themselves in discussion and class presentations.
8. To help students realize that the events of the past can be linked to the present and the future.

Student Activities and Evaluation:

1. Reading assignments will be given both in and outside of class. Students will be held accountable for completing reading through discussion, group work and quizzes.
2. Written assignments are expected on each work.
3. Joint projects with Honors History incorporating critical thinking, historical fact, research and technological skills will be assigned. Students are expected to study the teacher's evaluative feedback and learn to work on individual writing to become a fluent and critical writer.
4. Students are expected to work together in cooperative learning groups and on group projects.
5. Students are required to keep a binder (portfolio) of all their work organized and up to date. See class standards for details.
6. Students are expected to take notes on discussions, lectures, group analysis and discoveries.
7. Students will be given both objective and subjective tests on the material presented in this class.
8. Students will be expected to participate in class discussion and group work.
9. Students are required to be in class and on time to class. Frequent absences are discouraged and will impact grade.
10. Students are expected to read and follow the general attendance and classroom policies as well as the composition requirements for this joint history/ English class. (See attached.)

Parents are encouraged to attend Back to School Night to hear about this program.
Office Hours: after school Monday, Tuesday, Thursday for students.
Phone extension at school is 304.

Parent signature

date

Student signature

date

Pacific Grove High School
General Attendance and Classroom policies

In keeping with the English Department and PGHS standards for behavior and attendance are the following:

Classroom Standards

1. A verified cut will result in a student's grade being lowered on full letter grade. Three truancies will result in the student being dropped from class. (School policy.)
2. No food, drink, ipods/mp3 players, cell phones, skateboards, or other items that cause a distraction will be allowed in the classroom.
3. No wearing hats, dark glasses or doing make up work while in class.
4. No passing notes or attending to personal correspondence while in class.
5. No completing other class homework while in class. Such work will be confiscated.
6. **No late assignments will be accepted for credit if you are on campus or have been on campus the day an assignment is due. Recopying papers in class is not acceptable.**
7. Attendance is important. Continued absences impact both class performance and a student's grade. Be sure to call a member of your base group or request for homework if absent. Remember to write down the week's assignments each Monday. Check Homework Now on the school web site.
8. All assignments missed that a student was not aware of are due the second day a student returns. If student was aware of the assignment all attempts should be made to turn the assignment in on time.
9. Failure to bring appropriate materials to class or completing work will result in student being placed on behavioral contract and points being subtracted from his/ her grade. (5 points are the standard.)
10. There will be no talking without teacher permission. Students should not talk while others are sharing ideas.
11. Substitutes must be respected as adults and as the teacher for the day. Any negative report by the substitute will result in a referral and detention.
12. Tardy policy will be as follows: 1st tardy receives a warning, 2nd tardy receives an after school detention, 3rd tardy receives a detention and a parent contact. Tardy number four is referred to the administration for action.
13. **General rules:**
 - Be here.**
 - Be on time.**
 - Be engaged.**

Forms and Literary Standards

1. All papers *must be accompanied by a rough draft*—even papers that have been written on the computer. (Make a copy of your first draft before changing, so I can see the process.)
2. Plagiarism will result in failure. School policy calls for a student to be dropped from class after the second incident.
3. All papers must have a title and your full name, date and period.
4. All outside papers must be written on the computer. In class work must be completed in blue or black ink. No pencil is allowed except on scantron tests.
5. Notebook (portfolio): Each student is required to have a three ringed binder with tab dividers specifically for English. No other work should be contained in this notebook. No zippered binders please. This binder should be organized as follows:

Handouts- with signed course description first and rules and standards following

Vocabulary- both tests and lists with definitions

Essays and Written Work- contains papers, study guide questions.

Tests- contains other written tests

Grammar- contains grammar notes, exercises and tests.

Notes- students need to take notes on discussion. Any item placed on the board should find its way into notes. **Please date notes**. No notebook will receive an A or B grade without notes.

Grading Policy

1. In class and overnight essays receive one grade which reflects a combination of content, mechanics and organization.
2. Out of class essays receive at least two grades: the top reflecting content and the bottom grade reflecting organization and mechanics. Longer essays will receive at least three grades: top = content and ideas, middle = mechanics and punctuation, bottom = paragraph and paper organization. Failure to include a rough draft will result in a zero for the mechanics/ organization grade. Some papers may be counted as double or even triple grades. These will be announced.
3. All grades are considered equal and quarter and semester grades are an average of all grades received. Point values are as follows:

A+ = 13	B+ = 10	C+ = 7	D+ = 4	F = 0
A = 12	B = 9	C = 6	D = 3	
A- = 11	B- = 8	C- = 5	D- = 2	

Signature on course contract denotes parents and students have read and understood all class rules and course description. Students are to keep both the course description and rules in notebook for future reference. Thank you.