

Dr. Watts
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2010-2011

11th Grade English Slavery and Freedom in American Literature

Short Stories

"The Devil and Tom Walker," Irving
"The Devil and Daniel Webster," Benet
"The Story of an Hour," Chopin
"Rules of the Game," Tan
"Everyday Use," Walker
"America and I," Yezierska
"The Jewbird," Malamud
"The Sculptor's Funeral," Cather
"A Worn Path," Welty

Novels

The Great Gatsby, Fitzgerald
The Scarlet Letter, Hawthorne
Huckleberry Finn, Twain
Winesburg, Ohio, Anderson
My Name Is Asher Lev, Potok
The Fixer, Malamud

Plays

Long Day's Journey Into Night, O'Neill
Our Town, Wilder

Poetry and American Literature Survey

The American Experience, Prentice Hall Native American Literature
Early Puritan Literature
Romanticism
Transcendentalism
Walt Whitman
Modernism
Post-Modernism

Vocabulary Workshop Level G

SAT Preparation

The New SAT Critical Reading Workbook, Kaplan
The Official SAT Study Guide, The College Board

Grades:

8 3-5 page typed papers – 50% 4 Exams –30%
Finals are the equivalent of 2 papers
Vocabulary Quizzes and Tests – 10%
Homework, Behavior, Attendance – 10%

Objectives:

The junior year is devoted exclusively to American Literature, including its earliest essays, speeches, diary accounts and slave narratives, in addition to the American short story, novel and drama genres. This course seeks:

1. To educate students in the nature, purpose and evolution of American literature;
2. To teach students to discern its strains of self-creation, autobiography and pioneering spirit;
3. To teach students the ways in which the national character at a particular time in history is reflected in the literature of that period;
4. To allow students to assess the American canon in terms of contemporaneous British literature in order to understand the ex-patriot phenomenon of the first part of the twentieth century;
5. To continue to develop and refine students' critical thinking and writing skills.
6. It is vitally important for students to keep up with the reading and to be in class physically and mentally every day.

Paper Policy:

I encourage front-loaded revisions, that is, a paper's due date is the LAST DAY that a paper may be submitted. All rewrites should be done prior to that, allowing sufficient turn-around time. **You may submit to me as many rewrites as you wish, prior to the paper's due date.** This, of course, puts the onus of organization and time on you AND me! Papers are due at the beginning of class and are considered 1 day late if submitted after that time on that day.

Late Papers will lose 10 points per day that they are late, including all weekdays, even those days on which we do not have class. This policy is intended to teach you time management and responsibility. Of course, if extenuating circumstances prevent you from completing an assignment, you must inform me as soon as possible. If you have any questions or difficulties please feel free to email me.

Emailed Papers:

You may email me thesis sentences, ideas, questions and individual paragraphs, but I will not print out any papers.

AN EMAILED PAPER HAS NOT BEEN HANDED IN. YOU MUST HAND IN PAPERS IN CLASS IN HARD COPY.

Dr. Watts' s Classroom Policies and Expectations:

1. If you are unprepared for class, including not having your book(s), you will receive a "U" for the day. Three "U"s earn you a detention, and things get more interesting from there.
2. When you are absent, YOU must find out what you have missed and what you need to hand in.
3. Have a designated buddy in the class who will take notes for you and fill you in on assignments, etc., when you are absent. Or, you can always contact me. It is not my responsibility to track you down and tell you what you missed.
4. **All papers must be printed** before you come to school the day they are due. Do not wait to print them in school. Technology is not 100% reliable and undoubtedly the printers will not work or need toner precisely when you need to print out a paper. Do not give me a disk with your paper on it..
5. You will arrive on time for class.
6. You will come to class prepared with pencil, pen, notebook, homework, papers, and text, having read and thought about the assigned pages.

7. You will listen carefully to directions the first time they are given.
8. Once you have crossed the classroom threshold, there is NO returning to your locker.
9. You will NOT chew gum, eat, or drink anything in class EXCEPT water.
10. You will NOT have cell phones on in class. Per school policy, cell phones must remain in your locker. Any phones that appear in class will be confiscated and given to the administration, from whom YOU must retrieve them.
11. You will be mentally present in class. You will treat each other and me with respect.
12. You will hand in all work on time, barring extenuating circumstances.
13. Disruptive classroom behavior robs you and your classmates. The consequences of such behavior are detentions with me and/or Rabbi Weinbach, and calls to your parents.