

English IV Syllabus

Semester 1: Literature

Units:

- 📖 Note-taking and listening skills
- 📖 Elements of Literature
- 📖 Beowulf (Epic)
- 📖 The Tragedy of Macbeth (Play)
- 📖 Brave New World (Novel)

Semester 2: Writing - The Research Paper*

Units

- 📖 "Facing the blank page"
- 📖 "Why write?"
- 📖 Research paper - MLA format, 10 pp. minimum
 - 🟡 Prewriting
 - 🟢 Hypothesis
 - 🟢 Research Techniques
 - Reader's Guide
 - Evaluating sources
 - Note-taking
 - 🟢 Annotated bibliography
 - 🟢 Thesis
 - 🟢 Sentence outline
 - 🟡 Writing
 - 🟢 How to summarize/paraphrase/quote
 - 🟢 Research notes
 - 🟢 Citations in MLA
 - 🟢 Responsible writing/ethics
 - 🟡 Drafting sequence
 - 🟢 Introduction
 - 🟢 Body
 - 🟢 Conclusion
 - 🟢 Final draft

Grading Criteria

50% - Tests, Quizzes and Reading Checks

50% - Projects, Homework and Papers

There are no extra credit assignments. Use your listening and note-taking skills in addition to the resources shared. Finish work on time; ample time will be given for each assignment. If you have questions, ask Mr. Janes and no one else if you want the correct answer.

** Please note: The Research Paper final draft will be scrutinized using online tools that detect plagiarism. You will learn how to correctly cite sources and be expected to do so. Any work not cited will be considered plagiarized; as a result you will receive zero points on the final draft, resulting in an "F" for the second semester. This is your warning.*

Classroom respect and appropriate behavior is expected: The rule is simple: Don't waste Mr. Janes' time and he won't waste yours. If you aren't positive as to what might be wasteful, *review your student handbook.*

Computer Lab Rules:

- ✚ No food or drink is permitted in the lab. Food includes candy and gum. The only exception to this rule is water, which must be in a closable, clear bottle.
- ✚ The kitchen area is off-limits - no exceptions. If you need to wash your hands, ask permission to go to the bathroom.
- ✚ The Pantry and Storage rooms are off-limits.
- ✚ The only students allowed in the TV room are those working on Channel 12 tasks.
- ✚ Your workstation is your responsibility and you must clean up after yourself. If you leave your workstation unlike you found it, you will be held responsible.
- ✚ Print only with permission.

Listening and Working Skills: When doing group work, you may confer with your classmates. When doing individual work, you need to work as an individual, by definition. Do not ask others for the answers. Do the individual work assigned alone as it was assigned for the purpose of mastery. Ask *only* Mr. Janes if you have a question regarding the assignment.

Language: You will be working in web/print/audio/video and representing the school community. The language you will use will be *appropriate to the task*, often business/technical language (ask Mr. Janes when in doubt). In the interest of modeling excellence, whenever *your* writing or speaking is part of an assignment, you will be graded for spelling, punctuation and grammar. Proofread everything you do. A suggestion: consult a dictionary and/or a peer, teacher or parent. BEWARE OF SPELL CHECK as it can suggest the wrong word or misunderstand your context.

Late Work Policy: All assignments are due *at the beginning of the class period on their due date*. If you're doing the work while the rest of the class is otherwise engaged, you're not paying attention and this establishes a pattern to avoid.

- District late work policies are in effect in case of an excused absence.
 - o If you are absent for any reason, consult Mr. Janes' website or see him to see what you missed. Mr. Janes is not responsible for getting your make-up work to you.
- If you don't have an assignment when due, it is automatically ½ credit.
- You have until the end of school *that day* to hand in the late work; an emergency on your part does not become one on Mr. Janes' part.
 - o After that, it is a zero in the grade book.

Network Expectations: We save some of our work to our classroom folders on the network. Beyond *making sure you always back up your work*, you will be responsible for knowledge of file management such as:

- Computer/network/Internet ethics
- Correct location/folder
- Destination and retrieval of files
 - If you cannot access the network or Internet *for any reason, you are still responsible for that work*. If this is the case, *you will be held responsible to find a solution, not Mr. Janes*. Again, BACK UP YOUR WORK.
 - See your handbook to review Internet and computer rules. If you break a rule, *you will be caught* and lose your Internet/computer privileges for nine weeks, per district policy. Again, you are responsible for your work being handed in, even if you lose your privileges.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is copying the intellectual work of another and presenting it as your own. This applies to all forms of media: photographs, clip art, audio, video, etc. Regarding using others' writing/copy for web pages, the rule of thumb is if anything needs sources, you must *correctly* cite that source when: 1) quoting, 2) paraphrasing, and 3) summarizing. Mr. Janes will explain this in detail at the beginning of the year. If you plagiarize, you will be caught and will receive a zero for that assignment, at the very least.

Sign and Return: This is an assignment that you need to complete for credit. This syllabus is available on your Course Web Page for future reference.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____