

Alexis I. DuPont High School
English IV Honors
Mrs. Kohl
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I. Objectives

- 1 To learn to think more clearly, to speak and write more effectively, and to listen and read with great understanding.
- 2 To read some of the most accomplished literary works and understand the period in which they were created.
- 3 To encourage a delight of literature that is aesthetically, socially and personally appropriate.
- 4 To engage in critical reading, discussion and written analysis of literature with attention to language, structure, meaning, clarity of thinking, and value.
- 5 To appreciate a variety of texts from many cultures, time periods, including a cross-section of fiction and non-fiction.
- 6 To develop the ability to write in various forms, including the critical analysis of literature and a senior paper, which is a requirement for graduation.
- 7 To enhance understanding of the relationship of literature with other forms of art and increase interpretive ability.
- 8 To improve vocabulary.
- 9 To review literary and usage terms.
- 10 To improve speaking skills through class presentations, discussions, and debates.

II. Content

Literature: Students will read selections of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama written primarily by American and British authors of the past and present including *Beowulf*, *The Canterbury Tales*, *Macbeth*, *Frankenstein*, *The Sun Also Rises* and the textbook, *Elements of Literature, Sixth Course*.

Writing: During each marking period, a number of writing assignments will be completed. These will range from shorter assignments for homework, to in-class essays, to major papers. The completion of a research paper is a graduation requirement. Peer editing will take place in the classroom. Several options for analytical and creative writing also will be presented. All essays written outside of class must follow MLA

format (see attached directions).

Portfolio: Students are responsible for compiling a portfolio of all writing done for class each semester, including a self evaluation of two pieces. This will allow students to mark their strengths and weaknesses and thus improve their writing skills.

Vocabulary: Students will compile vocabulary lists based on the literature they are studying in class.

Materials: Students should purchase a binder and loose leaf paper. This will make it easier for them to organize handouts and notes.

III. Grading: Your grade will be based on a point system, points earned divided by possible points. The following types of work will be evaluated for grading purposes: essays (50 to 100 points), quizzes (20 to 30 points), homework and classwork (20 to 30 points), tests (100 points), projects (50 to 100 points), and oral presentations (50 to 100 points). The Red Clay Consolidated School District grading scale will be used for each work and the marking period.

100-93 = A; 92-85 = B; 84-77 = D; below 70 is failing.

Students may earn up to 30 points of extra credit each marking period. In order to earn extra credit points, a student may be absent for no more than three days each marking period (exceptions are as follows: hospitalization, death in the family, prearranged college visit, school activity, acute illness). In addition, a student may receive no more than two zeros a marking period. If these criteria are met, the extra points will be added in with the grade.

The final grade for the year is determined by adding the four marking periods, the mid-term, and the final exam. A .75 is necessary for passing the year. If a student receives an "F" in three of the five elements, a failure for the year will result.

IV. Attendance: The student is expected to take the initiative and make an appointment at the teacher's convenience to make up work missed because of an excused absence. School policy states that this must be done within as many days as the student was absent. A standing assignment is to be turned in upon the student's return to school.

If a student is absent for part of the day, he/she is to see the teacher of the class missed, turn in assigned work, and take any assignments given that day. If not, the student will receive a zero for work missed and homework due and a late penalty for

any major assignment due that day. No credit will be given for work missed during an unexcused absence.

If you miss a test due to an excused absence, it is your responsibility to see me to arrange a time to make it up. If not, your test grade will be penalized one letter grade for each day you do not make up the test. Any quiz not made up within the required time will become a zero.

If a student plans on missing school for vacation or a college visitation, s/he must give the teacher one week advance notice in order to receive school assignments that the student will miss while away.

Students are expected to report to class on time with the necessary materials. If you arrive to class after the bell, without a pass, you are to report to the Late Center.

V. Homework: Homework must be neat, typed, and fully completed by the beginning of class. **This means it must be printed before entering class.** It must meet the standards of written expression and fulfill the conditions of the assignment. Late homework and classwork **will not** be accepted. Major assignments (100 points or more) will be penalized a grade for each day late. If you are unable to print the assignment at home, save it to a disk and email to yourself and to me. Then arrive to school early enough to print it out at the library or in my classroom.

VI. Plagiarism: Cheating of any kind will result in a zero for that assignment. This includes copying homework, cheating on a test, getting all or a part of a paper off of the Internet, or putting your name on someone else's work. All assignments are to be completed individually, unless otherwise stated.

VII. Extensions: If a student needs an extension on an assignment and has **what I think is good reason**, it must be discussed before the due date. This request should only be made in extreme circumstances. Extensions will not be given the day an assignment is due. All tests must be completed within the class period. No one will be permitted to stay past the bell. The only exceptions are those students who have a specific accommodation requiring extended time.