8th Grade Regular/Honors English Course Syllabus

Instructor: Mrs. Shain, Room 110 – pshain@sfps.info

Objectives:

* Students will comprehend information that is read, heard, or viewed.
* Students will apply critical thinking skills to analyze information.
* Students will communicate effectively through speaking and writing.
* Students will demonstrate competence in the skills and strategies of the writing process and will understand grammar conventions (punctuation, etc.)
* Students will use literature and media to understand various social and cultural perspectives.

Our focus this year will be on American literature, although Shakespeare, Poe, and others will also be studied. Our survey of American literature will provide students with an overview of writings from such authors as Jack London, George Orwell, Daniel Keyes, John Steinbeck, and many others, and will include analyzing novels, short stories, and poetry, as well as composing short pieces, poems, and research papers. The course will be divided into thematic units, each addressing specific skills. Novel study reports, essays, projects, daily assignments, tests, quizzes, and participation will comprise your grade, as follows:

Novel Study, Essays, Projects, Papers, Exams 50%

Quizzes, Daily Assignments 30%

Pop Quizzes 10%

Participation, Conduct, Attendance 10%

All assignments are expected to be submitted on Due Dates. If your work is late:

* 1 Day – you receive 90% maximum
* 2 Days – you receive 80% maximum
* 3 Days – you receive 70% maximum
* More than 3 days – attend a Tutorial, and your work is due the following Monday. If you do not submit it Monday, you will receive a hard 0.

Some rules of class:

* No Electronics – My policy: If I see it, I take it.
* No Disrespect
* No Food

If you must go to the restroom, you will need a pass, you are allowed three restroom passes per quarter, and you *may not go during the first and last 15 minutes of class.*

**Tardy Policy** – ATC Policy will be strictly followed.

**Literature – If you have your own copy of these novels, please use it; we don’t have quite enough.**

*The Call of the Wild Of Mice and Men*

*Bless Me Ultima The Taming of the Shrew*

*Flowers for Algernon Animal Farm - Honors*

*Buried Onions Stories, Articles, Poems*

Materials: Please obtain:

* Binder, with five dividers (Vocabulary, Writing, Literary Terms, Grammar, Misc.)
* Post-its
* Lots of pencils, pens. Colored pencils, markers opt.
* Composition notebook
* **Two boxes of tissue – Thank you!**
* **Tube of Clorox-like wipes – Very much appreciated – thanks!**
* **Pkg. dry erase markers – Thanks**

I look forward to a challenging, engaging, fun year with all of you. Those of you who have had me before know I work very hard for you, and I expect the same level of effort from you. I am always happy to meet one on one with you; just check with me beforehand so we can set up a time that is good for both of us. Families, please schedule a meeting in advance to ensure it works for both of us.

Thank you,

Ms. Shain

-------------------------------------Cut here and return to Ms. Shain-----------------------------

*Participation credit (and a Jolly Rancher) given if returned by Monday*

We have read and understand Ms. Shain’s Course Syllabus.

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Student Signature Date

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Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Parent/Guardian email address(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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