8th Grade Regular/Pre-AP 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.
* 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, Octavia Butler, Roberto Anaya, Langston Hughes, Maya Angelou, 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 10% less credit than you would have earned, and you go to LAST so that you have the time you need to do your assignment
* 2 Days – you receive a maximum of 70%, and you go to LAST
* More than 2 Days – you attend weekday LAST, and Saturday School if you haven’t turned in your assignment by the weekend
* Please make every effort to do your homework. A “0” is unacceptable; ATC believes that each student can be successful!

Some rules of class:

* No electronics – SCHOOL POLICY: ATC Guidelines strictly followed.
* No disrespect

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

Tardy Policy: ATC Guidelines strictly followed.

**Literature – To read at home, each student needs a book; we don’t have enough for everyone**

*Buried Onions, Gary Soto*

*The Call of the Wild\*\**

*Bless Me Ultima*\*\*

*Flowers for Algernon\*\**

*Of Mice and Men\*\**

*Kindred*\*\*

*The Taming of the Shrew*\*\*

*Short stories, poetry, other writings, fiction and nonfiction*

Materials: Please obtain asap:

* 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 green (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 given if returned)

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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