

Alexis I. duPont High School
Greenville (Wilmington), DE 19807
1-302-651-2626 (p), 1-302-651-2757 (f)

www.aiduponths.com

Mr. Leonard

English Language Arts

victor.leonardjr@redclay.k12.de.us

Room/Ext. 269

English 12 College Preparatory

2009-2010

Course Syllabus

1. **Course Description:** 12th grade College Preparatory Language Arts revolves primarily around British and World literature. The textbook is divided into seven Collections ranging from Collection 1 The Anglo Saxons: 449-1066 to Collection 7 Modern World: 1900-the Present. Collections 1 and 2 are covered in the first marking period (m.p.), Collections 3 and 4 are covered in the second m.p., Collection 5 and the novel *Frankenstein* (by Mary Shelley) are covered in the third m.p., along with the Senior Research Paper, and Collections 6 and 7 are covered during the fourth m.p.. The course also includes both a midterm and final exam.
2. **Course Goals:** The course goals of 12th grade College Preparatory Language Arts are broad. On the surface, students will become more well-rounded intellectuals by reading, writing, and discussing important pieces of the formation and progression of the English language. Beneath the surface, students will learn valuable skills that will help prepare them for college and/or other endeavors of life, and beyond. These areas include: preparedness, focus, question-asking and answering, respect for oneself, respect for others, respect for one's surroundings, completing work in a timely fashion, keeping track of and measuring one's progressions towards goals, organization, and personal responsibility. Together, these skills help ensure student success by: encouraging hard work, encouraging quality work, encouraging ultimate self-respect, and, in the end, encouraging a "Commitment to Excellence" that helps assist students in reaching their life goals, both big and small.
3. **Course Objectives:** There are various objectives of the 12th grade College Preparatory Language Arts program. Throughout and by the end of each Collection, students should be able to recognize and analyze the various components of the Collection. This includes any part of the Collection covered either in class or at home. A relatively inclusive list of what the student is responsible for is posted in the classroom, as well. Additionally, students should have a storage location for their completed Collection work, as are responsible for this material on both the midterm and final exams. By year's end, and specifically by the completion of the third marking period, students should be able to complete a thorough research paper. The components of this research paper include: topic

selection, specific library research using various research methods, M.L.A. formatting, paragraph construction and cohesion, and well as others to be named closer to the start of the paper.

4. Textbooks: The textbook used for this course is Holt's *Elements of Literature, Sixth Course: Essentials of British and World Literature*. This is provided by the teacher, signed out by the student, and must be returned in the same condition it is issued to avoid charges (up to \$75.00). Any lost textbooks will be re-provided at a cost of \$75.00. The Home Access Center (H.A.C.) (<https://hac.doe.k12.de.us/homeaccess/>) and Report Cards, amongst other things, will not be available until this fee is paid.
5. Content: The course content is summarized as follows:
 - (M.P. 1) Collection 1 The Anglo-Saxons: 449-1066, Songs of Ancient Heroes (includes *Beowulf*, by Anonymous, versions translated by Burton Raffel and Seamus Heaney, etc.), *Beowulf* (film)
 - (M.P. 1) Collection 2 The Middle Ages: 1066-1485, The Tales They Told (includes *The Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer, etc.)
 - (M.P. 2) Collection 3 The Renaissance: 1485-1660, A Flourish of Genius (includes *The Tragedy of Macbeth* by William Shakespeare, etc.), *Macbeth* (film)
 - (M.P. 2) Collection 4 The Restoration and the Eighteenth Century: 1660-1800, The Best of All Possible Worlds (includes *A Modest Proposal* by Jonathan Swift, and *Don Quixote* by Miguel de Cervantes, etc.), *Don Quixote* (film) (possible)
 - (M.P. 3) Senior Research Paper (concurrently through Collection 4 and *Frankenstein*)- step-by-step directions to follow
 - (M.P. 3) Collection 5 The Romantic Period: 1798-1832, The Quest for Truth and Beauty (includes selections by William Blake, William Wordsworth, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Percy Bysshe Shelley, and John Keats, etc.), *Dead Poets Society* (film) (concurrently)
 - (M.P. 3) *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley, *Frankenstein* (film) (multiple versions)
 - (M.P. 4) Collection 6 The Victorian Period: 1832-1901, Paradox and Progress (includes selections by Alfred. Lord Tennyson, Robert Browning, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and Matthew Arnold, etc.)
 - (M.P. 4) Collection 7 The Modern World: 1900 to the Present, A Remarkable Diversity (includes multiple modern day authors, poets, essayists, etc.)
 - possible field trip, if available
6. Materials Provided by the Student: Students are required to come prepared every day with the basic school materials. They include: pen, pencil, paper, textbook, and something to organize course papers, both per Collection (bring every day) and for the year (file away to study for midterm and final). If forgotten, pens and pencils can be made available for a nominal fee. Additionally, on long period days, students are required to bring a recent (within one week) printed copy of their English Language Arts H.A.C. report, as well as their chosen course paper organizer, with papers included in an organized manner.
7. Detailed Grading Policy: Most grading is done on a formative basis and includes

many facets of education. The most common form of grading is the “Daily 10,” or, “D-10.” This means that students have the opportunity to earn a minimum of 10 points per day, and consists of a combination of many areas of education, primarily revolving around the theory that focused class participation is the cornerstone to quality learning, while class non-participation hinders the learning of all involved. Full points will be awarded daily for students who: come to class prepared (includes text every day), begin their daily-warm up by the second bell, thoroughly complete all homework on time, and don’t remove themselves from the class participation list (below), including: sleeping, doodling, talking out of line, not starting warm-up by second bell, and not completing assigned work and/or stopping work early, not raising hand to get out of seat (wandering), etc.. Most areas are worth two points per, but can vary. A detailed daily assessment is available on-line, with specific encoding made available in the notes section (marked on the H.A.C. by a “thought bubble.”)

Another frequent form of grading is presentations, especially group presentations. These range in format from acting to debate, and will usually consist of a minimum of 50 points per Collection, usually tallied using rubric format.

During the Senior Research Paper (3rd m.p.), students will have an opportunity to gain points in stages ranging from 10 to 50+. The stages rise in value as students move deeper into the research process. The point value of the final copy of the Senior Research Paper is 100 points, making the cumulative point value of the paper well over 250 points, a significant source of 3rd m.p. points. The Senior Research Paper must be completed to be eligible to pass 12th grade College Preparatory English, and, thus, to graduate.

Tests and quizzes are issued at least once per Collection, and are usually valued at 50 points per quiz, and 100 points per test.

Absent excused (AE) work is due within the number of days missed to guarantee up to full possible credit. Absent unexcused work (AU) is due within the number of days missed to earn up to 10% total credit. D-10 homework is due at time checked only. The date of the missed work must be clearly visible on the makeup work, and may not be accepted without. (Makeup work is to write a paragraph on the work listed for that day in parentheses on the H.A.C., unless otherwise noted.) Any acts of cheating or plagiarism will receive a grade of “0,” as well as severe disciplinary action.

Students earning an A all four m.p.’s, as well as an A on the midterm exam may be exempt from taking the final exam.

Final grade is determined through a combination of m.p., midterm exam, and final exam grades.

Grading scales follow standard District scales (i.e. A=93-100, etc.).

8. Contact Information: I am usually available during my Period 5 planning period, as well as during second lunch. Additionally, I attempt to be available after school as needed, and am usually around for at least a while on a daily basis.

The most effective contact information, however, is via e-mail:

victor.leonardjr@redclay.k12.de.us . I check my e-mail regularly, and have found it to be a very effective tool. Please attempt to schedule during-school and/or after-school appointments via e-mail, as well, to be sure of my availability.

Additional contact information, including phone contacts, are available above (in header).

9. Work Presentation: Attempt to head papers in M.L.A. format, as follows :

Your Name

Mr. Leonard

English 12 C.P.

Day Month Year

Additionally, work should be formatted according to M.L.A. guidelines, including: 12-Font [Times New Roman], double-spaced, page numbers following last name in the top right corner, etc. Specific details for M.L.A. formatting can be found at: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/> .

10. Other:

Periodic updates will be made available as they arise.

Please review and adhere to the rules listed on the following page.

Attachment (p. 6): Parent/Guardian Contact Information and Course Syllabus Acknowledgement [to be signed and returned].

Mr. Leonard's Rules and Participation for Room 269

- 1. Bring your book**
- 2. Be seated and working by second bell**
- 3. Stay in seat, unless otherwise directed (hand)**
- 4. Continue working entire class period**
- 5. Pay attention and participate**
- 6. Questions? Raise hand and wait until called on**
- 7. No talking unless called on, spoken to, or directed
(including announcements)**
- 8. No sleeping or head down**
- 9. No garbage on floor, including shreds**
- 10. Don't throw things, including garbage**
- 11. No electronics (will lead to confiscation)**
- 12. Mostly only water**
- 13. I'll take care of the door**
- 14. Limit pass use- per Code, max. three per m.p.**
- 15. Do your homework and study (tutor, if needed)**
- 16. Check H.A.C. weekly**
- 17. Bring organizer/H.A.C. printout for long period**
- 18. Check H.A.C. for makeup work (paragraph
summary for missed selection(s), w/ info on top)**
- 19. ABS: AE= up to 100%, AU= up to 10%
Late=-20% per day, down to max 10% (ex. dhw)**
- 20. Anything else you know or have been told is
right/wrong**

**Violation of these rules hinders learning for all and
will be dealt with swiftly, up to and including
disciplinary action.**

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Parent/Guardian Contact Information and Course Syllabus Acknowledgement

Parent/Guardian Contact Information (please complete as thoroughly as possible)

Parent/Guardian telephone number(s) (please identify whom and specify h, w, c, or o):

Parent/Guardian e-mail Address(es) (please identify whom):

Best means to reach Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Best time to reach Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Questions/Comments? _____

***Please log in to the Home Access Center regularly, at:
<https://hac.doe.k12.de.us/homeaccess/> ***

Course Syllabus Acknowledgement (received and read)

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student: Please return this completed form (p. 6 only) by assigned date for full credit.