

**Mrs. Dougherty**  
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**Room 263**  
**English IV Honors**

## **I. Objectives**

1. To learn to think more clearly, to speak and write more effectively, and to listen and read with greater 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 and time periods.
6. To develop the ability to write in various forms, including the critical analysis of literature and a senior paper, which is a graduation requirement.
7. To improve vocabulary.
8. To review literary and usage terms.
9. To improve speaking skills through classroom presentations, discussions and debates.

## **II. Content**

Literature: Students will read selections of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama written primarily by British and American authors of the past and present including *Beowulf*, *The Canterbury Tales*, *Macbeth*, *The Sun Also Rises*, *Jane Eyre*. In addition students will choose novels and works of non-fiction to read outside of class (one per semester).

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, and papers outside of class. 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 will be presented. All essays written outside of class must follow the MLA or APA format, which will be discussed in class.

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

## **III. Grading**

The following types of work will be evaluated for grading purposes: homework and/or class work, essays, quizzes (announced and unannounced), tests, special projects, and oral presentations. The Red Clay Consolidated School District grading scale will be used for each work.  
A:100-93; B: 85-92; C: 77-84; D. Below 70 is failing.

A student is capable of earning extra credit in the time frame of an academic quarter. However, a student who has not completed all assignment will not be given extra credit during such academic quarter. **Students who do not complete all work and receive a zero for the assignments they miss may be placing themselves in academic danger.**

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.

Students will accumulate points during each quarter. The number of points assigned to each assignment will correlate with the type of assignment and level of difficulty.

Grades can be calculated by dividing all possible point opportunities during a quarter into the number of points actually earned. Example: 95 points earned divided by 125 possible points = Average for the quarter.

#### **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 must 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 of any major assignments due that day. No credit will be given for work missed during an unexcused absence.

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 school on time with the necessary materials. Three lates per semester will result in an in-school suspension. 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 class. It must meet the standards of written expression and fulfill the conditions of the assignment. Late homework and class work will not be accepted. Major writing assignments will be penalized a grade for each day late. If a student is unable to print the assignment at home, s/he should save it to a disk or a flash drive and e-mail it to her/his school account, then arrive at school early enough to print it out at the library or from one of the student computers in the 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 part of a paper off the Internet, neglecting to cite another's words or ideas, or putting your name on someone else's work.

#### **VII. Extension:**

If a student needs an extension on an assignment and has what I think is a 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.

**Student Signature**\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature**\_\_\_\_\_

**Date**\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent phone number and  
e-mail**\_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this to your teacher at your next meeting. Thank  
you.**