

Name: _____

Date: _____



English Language Arts 12

Real World Writing and Reading

Mrs. Henning

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Office Hours: 7:00-8:00 AM and 3:30-4:30 PM, Monday-Friday, Room 303

Course Description

English Language Arts 12 is a course in which students prepare for the reading and writing lives they will lead after high school. Three essential components exist: the choice reading program, professional writing, and world literature. In the first semester, we launch the choice reading program, which continues throughout the entire year. We then layer in a focus on the methodology of writing within the realms of post-secondary preparation. Towards the end of first semester, we will begin incorporating whole-class texts, studying journeys and the formation of identity. This evolves into second semester's study of world literature. Important concepts include discernment, cultural understanding, and empathy with regard to literature in a global context. Students will seek to understand the moral and artistic value of various cultures through the works studied. Together we will learn and think about the world's literatures and discuss other worldviews with an open mind.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, WMAA students will be able to:

- The Learner Will process-write a personal narrative
- TLW collaboratively research and analyze the concept of social media etiquette
- TLW process-write various forms of career correspondences
- TLW read, view, and interpret literature from various genres to recognize literary devices and focus on central themes in historical, political, social, and cultural contexts.
- TLW read informational texts including speeches, essays, and other primary sources to determine author's purpose, message, audience, and significance to contemporary society.
- TLW read narrative, informational, and technical texts to construct meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary, using syntax, context clues, roots and affixes, and etymology.
- TLW process-write a critical analysis of a novel.
- TLW create a collection of personal work, exhibiting a coherent history of learning and improvement and submit a showcase portfolio.
- TLW read, view, and listen to classic and contemporary media and compare and contrast the mediums.
- TLW read a variety of literature to evaluate the texts for literary significance, author's craft, and enjoyment/appreciation based on personal, collaborative, and traditional literary standards.
- TLW read literature from various cultures to analyze universal human experiences and synthesize the information, making connections to his or her life.

Textbooks

Excerpts from *The Write Source: Grade 12* (PDFs)
Serial, a podcast by NPR hosted by Sarah Koenig
Into the Wild, John Krakauer
Night by Elie Wiesel
Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi
 Selected texts from all genres used throughout the year as mentor texts
 **Text selections may change

Grades

Students will earn a final grade each semester based on mastery of the course objectives. The cumulative semester course work will comprise 80% of the final semester grade. A cumulative semester exam will comprise 20% of the final semester grade. The final semester grade will be used in determining a student's grade point average (GPA).

WMAA Grading Scale		
Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Point
A	95-100%	4.0
A-	90-94%	3.7
B+	87-89%	3.3
B	83-86%	3.0
B-	80-82%	2.7
C+	77-79%	2.3
C	73-76%	2.0
C-	70-72%	1.7
F	0-69%	0.0
INC	Incomplete Coursework	N/A

A point system is used to calculate your grade for English 12. Listed below are the different ways you will be assessed throughout each semester. Point values for tests, quizzes and projects will be communicated prior to the due date. See the following for more specifics.

Tests and Projects – Tests will be given at the end of most units.
STUDY FOR THE TESTS IN ADVANCE. As you know, the final exam constitutes 20% of your final grade each semester. Students will also complete a number of projects of varying sizes throughout the year. Some will be completed in small groups and others as individuals. At least 5 days notice for larger projects will be given.

Quizzes – Quizzes will be given periodically throughout the quarter, including vocabulary and reading quizzes.

Writings – Students will be asked to write both inside and outside of the classroom. These writings will be assessed for a variety of things including but not limited to: coherence,

clarity, language usage, grammar/spelling, relevance of material, and completion of assignment. All papers must be in MLA format.

Homework Assignments – Homework can be expected every day, and it will consist of a variety of activities including handouts, vocabulary, reading and short writing assignments. Homework will always be checked for completion, and will be periodically collected and graded for accuracy. Homework must be completed **before** class begins or it will be considered late. Homework must be legible. A component of homework will be vocabulary practice.

Incompletes – If students reach the end of the semester and have not taken or have received failing grades in summative assessments (major tests, quizzes, projects, final exams, etc.) the course grade will be marked “Incomplete” until that student submits evidence of mastery.

Coursework

WMAA is committed to providing opportunities for students to show mastery of academic standards. Communication will occur frequently between teachers, students, and their parent/guardian concerning missing work. It is the student’s responsibility to meet with the teacher to determine a plan of action to deal with extensive missing work.

If coursework is not turned in on time, a zero will be recorded in the grade book until the work is submitted. This zero will be labeled as “missing” so that the reason for the zero is evident. If the allowable time period to make up the work has passed, the zero will become permanent. An item of late work may still be turned in for a grade, but the grade will automatically have 20% taken off. Students will have until the unit test or paper, at the end of each unit, to make up missing work from that unit of study. After the unit test or paper, all zeros recorded in the grade book during that unit will become permanent.

Students are encouraged to advocate for themselves if they feel they need additional time on assignments or assessments. Extended time may be offered on a case-by-case basis at the teachers’ discretion. Requests for extra time must be made at least 24 hours before any tests or quizzes are to be taken and at least 24 hours before any assignment is due. Understand that not all requests for extra time will be granted. Keep in mind that it is easier to ask for these types of adjustments when your history proves your usual punctuality and hard work.

Testing

A student’s mastery of academic standards is determined through performance on unit tests and projects and cumulative semester exams. The English department will provide students with limited additional opportunities to demonstrate mastery of academic standards. Quizzes, including vocabulary quizzes, may not be retaken at any point for credit. Test corrections may be submitted to earn a limited amount of points back.

Classroom Policies

1. Respect others, the teacher, yourself, and the material. *English class benefits from examining multiple perspectives, so listen when others are speaking, treat the material and the classroom with dignity and maturity, and respect yourself by putting forth the best you possess.*
2. Participate as much as possible and do not be afraid to risk being wrong. There is rarely one correct answer when analyzing literature.
3. Leave food, drinks (apart from water), phones and iPods outside of the classroom. If I see a cell phone, it will be confiscated and turned in to Mr. Fisher.
4. Be organized: Arrive on time with all the necessary materials. “On time” means in your seat, ready to learn when the bell rings. Use the bathroom, drinking fountains, and lockers between classes.
5. Gratuitous profanity in speech and in writing is unacceptable. Students are expected and encouraged to find clean, creative, grammatically sound ways of voicing disapproval, etc.
6. All rules, including uniform, in the student handbook will be enforced.

7. All plagiarism is taken seriously. Any three consecutive words from another person's work must be cited properly. Copying from another's work (peer or published author) will not be tolerated and will result in dismissal of the assignment's credit for any participating parties for a first offense. See overall school policy for information about further offenses.

Attendance and Tardiness

Attendance: It is very important to be in class, as each day's content builds on the previous day's work. When you are absent, it is your responsibility to get your missed work and set up a time to meet with Mrs. Henning to clear up any confusion. For each day of class missed, students are allowed one day to make up the missed work. All work turned in late must be accompanied by a note explaining why it is late (so that I know that it is late due to absence). Any time a student misses class, it is encouraged that they check the course website and/or with a peer to see what was done in class that day so that they are aware of what will need to be done to catch up. *Students absent on the date of a test or a quiz must make up tests and quizzes as soon as possible, at the latest within two days of return except in the case of long-term absences.*

Tardiness: All students are expected to be in their assigned classroom before the final bell sounds. Any student that comes to class after the bell, but within the first 10 minutes of class will be marked tardy for that class period. Any student arrives more than 10 minutes late to a class will be considered absent for that class period. Habitual tardiness will be dealt with between the teacher, the student, and his or her family. If the problem persists, further conversations will occur between Mr. Fisher, the student, and his or her family to determine a plan of action to correct the behavior.

Character

Additionally, students will be evaluated on their character choices for each course. The character evaluation will reflect student mastery of WMAA's critical character expectations: be respectful, be responsible and do your personal best.

3 – Exceeding Expectations

2 – Meeting Expectations

1 – Currently Not Meeting Expectations

What if I do not understand something?

If you do not understand something, whether it be the steps to an assignment or a character in a book we're reading, ask for help. Asking your peers is an excellent option, but you are also always welcome to ask me- through email or in person. When you're sitting at home, long after school hours and think of a question, send me an email. It is better to ask than to come to school the next day without something done.

If your question might benefit other students in the class, please ask it while we are all together.

Chances are if something is unclear to you, it is unclear to others too. If your question is specific to you, please come see me during office hours, listed at the top of this syllabus. I will always be in the school building during those times, but if you need to ask questions outside of those times, simply ask to set up a time: send me an email, talk to me during the school day, send a request through GoogleCalendar, etc.

Online Resources

Powerschool: <http://ps.westmichiganaviation.org/public/>

My Webpage: www.henninghomepage.weebly.com

School Phone: (616) 446-8886