Grade 11 English Disclosure Document

Mr. Fisher Rm. 609 E-mail: dfisher@alpinedistrict.org

2019-2020 School Year

**Course Description:**

The goal for this class is to prepare students for the academic rigors which they will face as they continue through their educational pursuits, as well as prepare students to become informed, contributing members of society. This course follows the standards set in the Utah Language Arts Core Curriculum and will challenge students to critically analyze and write various types of texts, including various fiction/nonfiction texts. **Students will be expected to demonstrate 11th-grade-appropriate communication skill in writing, critical and analytical skill in reading texts, creativity in producing original work, and collaborative skill in classroom activities.**  The classroom is a community with each student being an integral member.

**Grading:**

**Students must take responsibility for their own grades.** Each student will receive the grade that she or he has earned. Practice assignments will be counted toward the participation portion of one’s grade for that day. ***Assessment assignments*, tests and quizzes are not optional. Students must complete all of the assessments to earn credit for the class. Students who miss an assessment will receive and incomplete “I” until that assessment is completed and scored.** Assessment assignments will be given a score of 0 – 4 points according to the following scale:

I = the assignment is missing, incomplete, or doesn’t meet the requirements

0 = the assignment is missing or doesn’t meet the requirements

1. = the assignment demonstrates very poor quality or extremely low proficiency
2. = the assignment demonstrates the student is not yet proficient in the assessed objective
3. = the assignment demonstrates a basic proficiency in the assessed objective
4. = the assignment demonstrates a high level of proficiency in the assessed objective

Points that the student earns will be figured into a total percentage of the points possible, resulting in a final letter grade. It should be noted that individual assignments seen as letter grades can be misleading to the overall grade that a student will receive. As such, I would suggest changing the settings within Skyward to show points earned rather than a letter grade. As well, assessment assignments may be redone to earn proficiency (and an improved grade). Below is the letter grade scale that will be used at the end of terms.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 94-100%=A | 83-86%=B | 73-76%=C | 63-66%=D |
| 90-93%=A- | 80-82%=B- | 70-72%=C- | 60-62%=D- |
| 87-89%=B+ | 77-79%=C+ | 67-69=D+ | 0-59%=F |

Grades and attendance may be checked at any time on the Skyward website by following the link from the THS website. However, due to large class sizes and the time required to read essays and other assignments, grades may not be updated on a daily basis. Papers often take a significant amount of time to read and score. I try to be as timely as possible, however please be patient.

**Class Expectations:** (See student handbook for school rules and procedures)

**All school rules and policies apply in this class.** Students will be held responsible for damage caused to classroom equipment and/or texts. For health, cleanliness, and safety concerns, no food or drink (except clear water in a clear container) will be allowed in the classroom. **Students should familiarize themselves with the electronic device policy.** Please do not bring valuables to class. The only items allowed at the desks are items that relate directly to English 11 classroom activities.

**Attendance:** (Refer to student handbook for school policy on attendance)

Each student is expected to be in class and on time each class period. If a student is absent, he or she should check the class website and with a classmate to find out what was missed. **Students are responsible to make-up any missed assessment assignments.** Failure to do so will result in an “incomplete” and will not receive credit for the course. If a student comes in late, it is the student’s responsibility to guarantee the absence is changed to a tardy by signing in with the attendance office or properly signing in on the tardy log. **Daily classwork points will not be awarded for time not in class (absence, tardy, and hall pass).** The hall pass should be used sparingly, and may result in missed participation points. If hall pass usage becomes excessive or habitual, the teacher will contact the student’s counselor, administrator, and/or parent/guardian.

Please remember that being absent or late not only impacts a student’s grade (and therefore, success), but others as well. As this course often has class discussion and collaborative work, lack of presence hinders the group, and showing up tardy disrupts the class as a whole. Please be here.

**Daily Classwork:**

All students are expected to engage in all classroom discussions and activities in a productive, meaningful, and polite manner. Daily classwork points are given for in-class practice assignments, and classroom engagement. 4 points will be available each day according to the following scale:

0 = did not participate in day’s activities, was absent, or failed to meet common expectations

1 = engaged below expectations (see below)

2 = engaged below expectations (see below)

3 = engaged in the day’s activities

4 = engaged fully in the day’s activities and demonstrated learning

Some students may earn an extra point (for a total of 5 points) for exceptional in-class performance or attention to the 6 Cs. **At the teacher’s discretion, points may be withheld for classroom disturbances, inattention, rule violation, inappropriate behavior, tardiness, or any other lack of participation. Any violation of electronic device policy may result in complete loss of participation points for that day and confiscation of the device.** As most of the work and leaning happens during class time and is based on activities which are difficult to make up, these points have a large impact on the students’ grades.

Above all, because classwork points are earned through engagement in the classroom learning activities, they will be withheld for absences (which obviously preclude classroom engagement). **Excused absences and school-excused absences are no exception.**  An excused absence simply means that the student had a valid reason for being absent. It does not excuse the student from the responsibility to learn or practice the material. Any student who has missed a class, for whatever reason, will be expected to complete an English-related practice as extra credit to make up the classwork points missed. This is no substitute for the content missed in class, but it at least exercises the language arts portion of the brain and is the best I can offer. Because these assignments pale in comparison to the actual classwork, there is a limit of 12 points per term.

Extra credit (unless otherwise specified on the website) is due one full week before the end of each term.

Now, because I do want to encourage students to participate in their other classes’ activities and extra-curricular activities, I often give double points to extra credit for school-excused absences. **In order to take advantage of this offer, students must submit the extra-credit assignment with a coversheet stating that the absence was school-excused, the exact date of the absence, the teacher or advisor who excused the absence, and a note explaining the specific event or activity which necessitated the absence.** For medically excused absences (verified through the attendance office), contact me personally.

**Assignment Submission:**

Assignments must be neat, legible, and complete. Assignments that are illegible will not be accepted and should be resubmitted (even if late). Incomplete assignments will receive an “I”, and the student will be responsible for its completion before credit can be earned. **No-name assignments will be thrown away.**  Work should be formatted correctly. Students must take responsibility for the quality and completion of their work, and as such, **no excuses will be accepted (including excuses for computer or printer issues**—students have access to both at the school).

Late work will be penalized 1 to 2 points regardless of the reason it is late unless arrangements are made in advance. Should a student be absent the day the assignment is due, I will accept e-mail submissions of the assignment (due to my inbox no later than 2:45 p.m.) or a student can make arrangements with someone to turn assignment in (due to the assignment inbox by 2:45 the day the assignment was due). **Absences do not extend deadlines**. **No extra credit or late work (except in the case of an “incomplete”) will be accepted the last week of term.**

**Academic Honesty:** (Please refer to the student handbook for more information)

All students will complete their own original work. **Plagiarized assignments will be given NO CREDIT and may result in loss of credit for the class (see the school policy on plagiarism).** This may result in an administrator/parent conference. Although this may sound unfair, plagiarism in college can result in expulsion, or in the work force, can result in lawsuits and even criminal proceedings. Plagiarism is a matter which I take very seriously.

**General Notes:**

* As per the Utah Language Arts Curriculum, please note that we will be comparing occasional film versions of novels/plays.
* Junior English is a fun year, filled with interesting texts and class discussions which will challenge students’. The more effort a student puts into class, the more value they will receive from this course. As students participate and engage with the course content in a mature and meaningful way, students will be surprised at the depth of understanding they gain into heart of humanity.
* Keys to success in my class: be here, respectfully and positively participate, and try your best. You will do amazing!
* At Timpanogos High School, our culture is one of inclusive respect. We rely upon one another to help strengthen our community. Character and citizenship are integral to this. As such, maturity, personal responsibility, and integrity are required of each student.
* **Parents, please give your student permission (through Skyward) to use the school’s computers** as soon as possible, as some of our work requires access (typing essays, researching topics, etc.).

If you (student or parent) have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please e-mail me at dfisher@alpinedistrict.org or leave a voice-mail message at extension 609.

Thank you.

Please see the next page for the assigned signature sheet.

*Please read the entire document and return this page only (signed). Thank you.*

Student’s Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I have read the terms in Mr. Fisher’s 2019-2020 English 11 disclosure document:

Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Comments: