Course: English A: Language and Literature SL 2014-2016
Teacher: Mrs. Faye Krouse
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Course Description

The main focus and purpose of this course is to prepare students to be critical, thoughtful, and analytical thinkers in preparation for not only university but also the global community. By exploring the classics to the modern works, students will be challenged to read and assess the themes found in texts from a variety of sources, genres, and media that make the human experience universal despite the disparity in time and space. Pivoting on the human experience, students will learn to challenge themselves and each other within their commentary of the world around them as prompted by the core, as well as marginal, dilemmas and conflicts faced by the characters within their readings.

In debate of worldly issues, the course aims to create reflective, contemplative and engaged individuals who can articulate their thoughts thoroughly and clearly. One of the main objectives is to understand and successfully practice the writing process in order to avoid any discrepancy between what is verbalized versus written. Students will encourage each other to make more insightful and meaningful commentary throughout the year with proper guidance and feedback.

Needed Daily Class Materials:

1. Writing Utensils:
   a. Pencil (and eraser)
   b. black/blue ink pen
   c. some other color ink pen(s)
2. 3-Ring Binder with loose leaf paper and dividers
3. Writer’s Journal
4. Reader’s Journal
5. A book of your choice (yes, for reading - must be something other than our class text)
   • e-books are acceptable
6. USB drive or external hard drive
7. Laptop

If you are reading an e-book, you may use your laptop for independent reading. However, your laptop will remain closed and put away except when directed.
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<td>Part 3: Literature Texts and Contexts</td>
<td><em>Antigone</em> by Sophocles (PLT) <em>Othello</em> by Shakespeare (PLA)</td>
<td><strong>External Assessment:</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Paper 2: Timed Essay (25%)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<em>SL: 1.5 hours</em>&lt;br&gt;In response to one of six questions students write an essay based on both the literary texts studied in Part 3.</td>
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<td>Part 4: Literature Critical Study</td>
<td><em>The Things They Carried</em> by Tim O’Brien (PLA) <em>The Roundhouse</em> by Louise Erdrich (PLA)</td>
<td><strong>Internal Assessment:</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Individual Oral Commentary (15%) - recorded.</strong>&lt;br&gt;<em>Prep time: 20 min.</em>&lt;br&gt;<em>Commentary time: 10 min. commentary + 5 min. of discussion and subsequent questioning. Total: 15 min.</em></td>
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<td>Part 1: Language in the Cultural Context</td>
<td>A range of text types to be covered with 1-2 core texts of significant coverage but not in full. Topics to be covered:&lt;br&gt;1) Gender (inequality, constructions of masculinity and femininity)&lt;br&gt;2) Language and the individual (multiculturalism/bilingualism, language profile/identity)&lt;br&gt;3) Language and taboo (swearing, political correctness)&lt;br&gt;4) Language and power (linguistic imperialism, propaganda)</td>
<td><strong>Internal Assessment:</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Further Oral Activity (15%)</strong> <em>One will be completed for Part 1.</em>&lt;br&gt;<em>SL and HL: Minimum of two is completed, one in part 1 and the other in part 2; however, only the mark of one of them is submitted for final assessment.</em>)</td>
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Texts are chosen from a variety of sources, genres, and media. A wide range of text types are included to help students with analysis and production. Short texts or extracts from literary works will be used to complement various films genres, interviews, speeches, song lyrics, editorials, advertisements, etc. - the list is not exhaustive and may vary accordingly.

**Internal Assessment:**
Further Oral Activity (15%)

One will be completed for Part 2.

(SL and HL: Minimum of two is completed, one in part 1 and the other in part 2; however, only the mark of one of them is submitted for final assessment.)

**External Assessment:**

**Written Task (20%)**
Completed throughout the course of study and submitted for scoring.

SL:
Students produce at least three written tasks based on material studied in the course and submit ONE. 800-1000 words in length + 200-300 word rationale (cannot be literary analysis!)

**External Assessment:**

**Paper 1: Unseen Commentary (20%)**

SL: 1.5 hours
Choose ONE of two previously unseen passages from non-literary texts for analysis.

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**Total number of teaching hours:** SL: 150

**Addendum:**

Areas of discussion in preparation for examination paper 2 (Part 3):

SL:
- How can we explain the continued interest in a particular work in different contexts and different times?
- What do you think of the assertion that the meaning of a text is fixed and does not change over time?
- How valid is the assertion that literature is a voice for the oppressed?
- To what extent do male and female literary characters accurately reflect the role of men and women in society?
- To what purpose do authors sometimes choose not to follow a chronological sequence of events in their literary works?
- Do works of literary merit both reflect the spirit of the time and challenge it?