

Instructor: Mrs. Sally A. Watkins **Course:** English Literature and Composition

Academic year: 2008-09

Course philosophy: Welcome to Senior English, the capstone of your studies in literature, vocabulary, writing, listening, and discussion! So much of the success this year depends upon you, your involvement, attitude, commitment, and enjoyment. We will be reading a variety of selections, many from British literature, but others from pieces that tie thematically to works under discussion. Integral to our study will be analytical writing in response to what has been read whose purpose is to clarify even further your understanding of the relevance of a piece of literature considered to be classic. Along with literature, writing, and class discussions, vocabulary study continues this year with an emphasis on usage points and what many consider to be terms and ideas that literate people know. Of course, this year also means perfecting a Chapel Speech for presentation to the student body as well as a College Essay that will be a necessary component of your college application process and a research paper on a topic of your own choosing. Most important of all, by the end of this year, you should feel secure in your preparation for college work.

Course requirements: 1) paperbacks
2) 3-ring binder for hand-outs, paper for note-taking
3) blue or black pen for note-taking and test-taking
4) hand-outs dealing with the unit at-hand

Grading procedure: Your trimester grade will be determined by the total number of points you have earned as compared to the total number of points accumulated through assessments. Here are some general guidelines:

Major Tests : at least 100 points each

Quizzes : ranging from 25 to 50 points

Formal compositions : at least 100 points

Timed writing : 50 points

At the end of a trimester, there are usually 15 to 25 different kinds of assessments on which a grade is based.

Grading scale: The following scale is also listed in the Student Handbook:

A- to A 90-100 D- to D 60-69

B- to B+ 80-89 F 0-59

C- to C+ 70-79

Homework/Classwork policies:

1. Generally, I do not give daily written homework assignments, but I will assign long-range reading, writing, major testing, or project-style assignments that you will need to work on daily to achieve the best grade rather than complete a task in a day or two.
2. You should probably be spending an average of 45 minutes/night on English work. The majority of your time will mostly be spent on assigned reading.

3. All assignments are due on the date decided upon **during the class period**. Late work will receive a 10 point deduction for every day late until the grade becomes a 50; work not turned in will receive a 0. Nothing can spoil a good grade like late work.
4. All assignments to be turned in must have the student's name, date, and English 12.
5. When your work is returned, it should be placed in your binder in a separate section from hand-outs.
6. In your binder you should have separate sections for literature, vocabulary, usage, and composition (including term paper hand-outs).
7. Listen to instructions the first time they are given; ask questions about anything that needs clarification.

Classroom policies:

1. Daily *prepared* attendance is mandatory.
2. The student is solely responsible for any material covered or announcements made during her absence.
3. **The school's attendance policy will be strictly enforced.**
4. Students will exhibit behavior that is appropriate, respectful, and honest at all times in every class.
5. Cheating or plagiarism will result in zero credit for the assessment.

Calendar

Week Topic

- 1 Introduction/**Chocolat**/Ballads
- 2 Ballads/**Canterbury Tales**
- 3 **Chocolat/Canterbury Tales**
- 4 **Canterbury Tales**/College essay/Chapel speeches
- 5 Usage/In-class essays/**Chocolat**
- 6 **A Doll's House**
- 7 **A Doll's House**
- 8 **A Doll's House**
- 9 In-class writing/usage
- 10 Grammar : run-ons, punctuation, style
- 11 Review/Exam

Second Trimester

- 1 Renaissance Poetry
- Fall Break**
- 2 Renaissance Poetry
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Elizabethan Projects/reports/essays
- 5 **Night**
- 6 **Winter Break**
- 7 **Macbeth** (Term papers done outside class)
- 8 **Macbeth**

9 **Macbeth**

10 **Macbeth**

11 Later Renaissance Poetry

12 Later Renaissance Poetry

Third Trimester

1 Grammar/**She Stoops to Conquer**

2 **She Stoops...**

3 **She Stoops...**

Spring Break

4 **Tess of the D'Urbervilles**

5 **Tess...**

6 **Tess...**

7 What Literate Americans Know

8 Romantic Poetry

9 Romantic Poetry

10 **The Awakening**

11 **The Awakening**

12 Comprehensive exams

English 12 Outline

Trimester 1

I. **Chocolat**

1. Reading journal explanation—novel to be read outside class in three installments
2. Introduction to the novel
3. Quizzes/assessments on each section
4. Discussions on character development, theme, style, plot
5. Reading journals as the major assessment

II. **The Canterbury Tales**

1. Introduction to Chaucer's life and historical period
2. Prologue to the **Tales**—Chaucer's plan for the **Tales**, analysis of each character's development,
3. Student reports on each character
4. **Tales**—The Wife of Bath's Tale

III. Usage Unit

1. Choices taken from **A Pocket Manual of Style**, Third edition
2. Quizzes

IV. Grammar

1. Fragments, run-ons
2. Punctuation

V. College Essays/In-class Essays/Chapel Speeches

1. Preparation for writing the college essay, sample essays, style and subject; rough drafts graded; final drafts graded
2. In-class timed writings on a variety of topics related to literature
3. Preparation for writing chapel speeches; first draft conferenced with me; final draft graded; at least 3 practice sessions with me

VI. **A Doll's House**

1. Background on Ibsen, his contributions to drama, his notes on the play
2. Background on the play
3. In-class reading of the play, discussion
4. Quizzes on each act, essay test

VII. Exam on the first trimester

Second Trimester

I. The Renaissance—background and poetry

1. Background introduction—student reports assigned
2. Lyrical poetry
3. Sonnets
4. Reports, essays

II. Grammar

1. Punctuation
2. Reference

III. **Night**

1. Background on Elie Wiesel
2. Discussion on the novel read outside class

IV. **Macbeth**

1. Background on the play
2. In-class reading of the play, video
3. In-class essays; 5-paragraph paper
4. Quizzes on each act; essay test

V. Term Paper

1. Introduction to the process, paper done outside class
2. Works cited cards
3. Note cards
4. First draft
5. Final draft

VI. Later Renaissance Poetry

1. Puritans
2. Cavaliers

Third Trimester

I. Grammar/In-class writing

II. **She Stoops to Conquer**

1. Background on Goldsmith and the writing of the play

2. Introduction to the comedy of manners and to the characters
3. In-class reading of the play

III. **Tess of the D'Urbervilles**

4. Background on Hardy and the writing of the novel
5. Discussions on theme, style, character development
6. Quizzes, major essay test
7. In-class writing

III. Vocabulary taken from **Cultural Literacy: What Literate Americans Know**

1. Lists of 20 items
2. Quizzes

IV. Romantic Age/Poetry

1. Background to the Age and to the qualities of Romanticism
2. Early Romantics: Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge
3. Later Romantics : Byron, Shelley, Keats
4. Romantic projects
5. Quizzes

V. **The Awakening**

1. Background on Chopin and the writing of the novel
2. Characters
3. Discussion
4. Quizzes
5. Reading journal, in-class writing

End-of-the-year Exam