

Language Arts IV Syllabus

Name of Course: Literature/Survey II/LA IV

Name of Instructor: Mr. Hickerson /English Department

Course Length: 2 semesters 2013-14

Textbooks and Materials: *Literature: Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes* (2002
British Tradition). Prentice Hall 0-13-054793-x

Lord of the Flies. William Golding

Animal Farm. George Orwell

The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark. William
Shakespeare

Course Description: Language Arts IV is a survey course that enriches communication and critical thinking skills through reading British literature, expanding vocabulary, enhancing writing skills, and improving speaking and listening abilities.

Course Content and Learning Objectives:

- Students will read British literature with understanding and fluency to recognize the contribution to our world and its ideas.
- Students will write to communicate for a variety of purposes.
- Students will listen and speak effectively in a variety of situations.
- Students will use the language arts to acquire, assess and communicate information.

ISBE Illinois Learning Standards <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/ils/ela/standards.htm>

Units of Instruction/Central Skills/Concepts

Listening and Speaking Skills, Reading Strategies, Elements of Fiction, Poetry, Literary Terms, 6⁺ Traits of Writing, Elements of Nonfiction, Vocabulary, College Preparatory Writing.

Assignments and Grading: Grades are determined by total points earned.

Assessment will be based upon quizzes, tests, class work, homework, participation, and presentations.

Assessment-Format: Short Answer, Essay, Multiple Choice, Written Reflection, CLOZE and other CRISS-type assessments. Frequency: Depends upon the skill being assessed. Minimum of weekly assessments.

Attendance//make-up work

It is essential that you be in class. However, if you must miss class due to illness or for other important reasons, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed, acquire handouts and to borrow/copy the class notes you missed. For assignments that have been assigned several days in advance, your assignment is still due on the assigned day. If you are absent on the due date, it is due when you return or as soon as possible. It is important that you complete your work as soon as possible even though the school guidelines may suggest a longer amount of time. For any unusual circumstance, please talk to me.

Late Assignments: You are responsible for turning in all your assignments on time and keeping up with your reading. If you do not understand an assignment, ask for help in advance so that you can complete it. If there are other circumstances, please come talk to me. Every day an assignment is late, you will be deducted points. Once I have returned all the graded assignments, you cannot turn in that assignment for credit.

For longer papers and assignments, you will be given a reasonable amount of lead-time. However, it is up to you to plan your study/work schedule.

Classroom Rules/Expectations

Prepared I expect you to be in your seat and ready to work at the bell. Have your assignment ready to hand in if there is one. Have all supplies with you. Texts, pens, paper.

Respectful I expect you to respect each other, yourself and our learning/community environment. "Standard of dress"/no phone.

Responsible I expect you to be responsible for yourself and your work.

Reading/work: keeping up is important to your success. If you fall behind, you set yourself up to be frustrated and overwhelmed. Some assignments/readings will be difficult and you may not understand it the first time. That's OK. Do the best you can and understand that sometimes, we have to stretch our thinking before we can be successful. Write down questions you have or ideas you may have. Ask for help when you feel you are in a "bog". I will always help if you ask.

Plagiarism/ cheating: Please know that you begin with my trust and faith. Do not abuse that by being dishonest in any way. Sharing ideas and working together is great. Simply copying someone else's work is not. Yes there will be a penalty.

Grading policy

I will use a point system to grade your work. For major assignments, I will use a rubric or a set of expectations. The school grading scale is the measure.

Circumstances Beyond our Control everyone, even myself, will have a time when the unexpected occurs and we may not have the assignment completed. Talk to me and I will adjust your due date. However, this is not a routine situation.

Course work procedures

1. Daily homework assignments may be neatly hand-written.
2. Longer assignments/papers must be typed in 12-Point, clean font. Double-space.
3. Staple your final copy on top
4. Name on the top right hand corner and your class period.

Questions

Always feel welcome to ask before or after class if you have an extra question or need clarification. You are welcome to email me at shickerson@dist228.org. Although, I will take a call at home, this should be an emergency situation.

Emergency Procedures for our class:

1. Fire Single file/quiet and meet across the street for roll call.
2. Tornado Single file/quiet /proceed to hall/face the lockers/cover head
3. Intruder/Lock down Quiet/back of room/door locked/shades drawn