

Instructor: Ms. Angelia Hannah
Room S-214



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COURSE OUTCOME:

Course Description

This course includes a broad overview of American literature and a college-level vocabulary study, as well as a variety of writing techniques, research techniques, grammar techniques, and oral communication techniques. Outside reading and writing are required. The curriculum addresses the standards set forth by the Tennessee Department of Education; however, there is no end-of-course assessment for this class. The development of critical reading, higher-order thinking, and text-based writing skills, along with the improvement of literary analysis skills, will be emphasized through class discussions, essays, creative writing, technology assignments, oral presentations, and research projects. Due to time constraints, homework will include reading.

Curriculum Standards

To view the Tennessee State Standards for English, visit <https://www.tn.gov/education/instruction/academic-standards/english-language-arts-standards.html>.

INSTRUCTION:

Skills Covered

This course is designed to hone reading skills, which include improving reading speed, increasing comprehension, and enhancing vocabulary; improving analytical skills; improving writing skills which focus on grammar and clarity; as well as composing and editing essays. All of these will help prepare students to succeed in their future college and career goals.

Grammar: Punctuation and capitalization; phrases, clauses, combining sentences; subject-verb agreement; pronoun-antecedent agreement; pronoun usage; frequently confused/misused words.

Vocabulary: Unfamiliar vocabulary from literary selections; literary terms; commonly misused words

Writing: Quick writes; literature responses; essays (argumentative, informative/explanatory, and narrative)

Materials Needed

- EARBUDS OR HEADPHONES
- PENCILS AND PENS
- HIGHLIGHTERS

*Note: This is a general list. Other materials may be needed for various project assignments.

Resources

A two-volume consumable textbook will be issued for the personal use of each student. Students will be held financially responsible if school-issued books are lost, stolen, or damaged.

Literature: Pearson--*My Perspectives*, American Literature

Grammar: Resources provided by teacher

Novels: *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

Other novels, dramas, or long works may be included.

Google Classroom

Google Classroom is an integral part of how this course is conducted. Google Classroom is a virtual learning platform used to provide students with additional support, feedback, and access to content. Copies of the texts being studied, all PowerPoint presentations, and videos (when possible) will be uploaded to Google Classroom. In addition, tests will be administered through Google Classroom, and students may be required to submit assignments or projects electronically through the platform.

Students may access daily lesson plans using the link posted in Google Classroom. Students who are absent can see what they have missed and what, if any, makeup work should be submitted.

ASSESSMENT:

Grading Policy

- Daily Work 40%
- Tests & Quizzes 50%
- Parent Signatures 10%

Make-Up Work Policy/Late Work Policy

Students are encouraged to check Google Classroom daily for homework assignments, test dates, project due dates, and other important dates.

The following school policy will be upheld:

It is the responsibility of the student to see that the requirements of the attendance policy are met, and all work missed is completed to the satisfaction of the teacher.

As a minimum, a student will be allowed an equal number of days to complete the make-up work as the number of days that were missed. For example, a student who is absent for three days should have all work turned in by the third day that the student has returned to school. More time for make-up work may be granted in special circumstances by making arrangements with the teacher involved.

A student who does not have an assignment completed and ready to turn in the day the assignment is due will receive a 20% deduction and will be given one additional day to turn in the assignment. No late assignments will be accepted after the following day the assignment is due.

A student is allowed two late assignments per semester. After the second late assignment, the teacher will assign a grade of zero for each subsequent late assignment. A student is responsible for arranging additional time with his or her teacher if the situation warrants.

Students are responsible for checking Google Classroom to see what assignments were missed due to an absence.

Skyward

Please check Skyward at least once per week for updated grades. There should be no surprises for you at the end of the nine weeks or the end of the semester.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:

Attendance Policy

The school-wide attendance and make-up policy will be strictly enforced. It is the student's responsibility to obtain make-up work. Remember, there is no substitute for face-to-face classroom instruction.

Classroom Policies/Procedures

All handbook rules will be enforced. Any extremely disruptive or disrespectful student will be immediately removed from the classroom.

I will endeavor always to be fair to my students. Please keep in mind, however, that *fair* and *equal* are not

synonymous. *Equal* means students are treated exactly the same; *fair* means that I will strive to provide each student with the opportunities necessary to succeed.

Classroom Rules

1. Be respectful.
2. Be responsible.
3. Be appropriate.
4. Be involved.
5. Be honest.

Consequences

1. Warning
2. Personal conference
3. Parental involvement
4. Discipline Referral

Classroom "Norms" [guidelines for student participation in the classroom]

1. Be present and engaged.
 - Attendance is critical.
 - Limit distractions.
2. Monitor air time and share your voice.
 - You'll know which applies to you!
3. Challenge with respect.
 - Disagreement can be healthy.
 - Respect all intentions.
4. Risk productive struggle.
 - This is a safe space to get out of your comfort zone.

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students will be subject to the disciplinary action outlined in the English department policy signed by students at the beginning of the year.

No cell phones are to be brought into the classroom. Use of a cell phone in the classroom will result in confiscation of the phone. All policies outlined in the school handbook will be followed.

Teacher Communication

The best way to reach me is by e-mail, angelia.hannah@fcstn.net. I check it several times daily and will respond within 24 hours during the school week. You may also call the school phone (967-2821) and leave a message for me. If you would like to request a conference, please contact me with several times and dates that you have available, and I will do my best to accommodate one of those times.

SEMESTER OVERVIEW

Unit 2, The Individual and Society:

- Excerpt from *Up from Slavery* and Historical Perspectives
- *Fahrenheit 451*
- Selected poems of Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson
- Selections from Emerson and Thoreau
- "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"
- "A Wagner Matinee"
- Writing Mode: Personal Narrative

Unit 3, Power, Protest, and Change:

- "The Zigzag Road to Rights," and Historical Perspectives
- Excerpt from "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?"
- Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address
- "Ain't I a Woman?"
- "Declaration of Sentiments"
- "Giving Women the Vote" podcast
- "The Story of an Hour"
- *Brown v. Board of Education*: Opinion of the Court
- Writing Mode: Informative Essay

Unit 5, Facing Our Fears:

- "Is it Foolish to Fear?" and Historical Perspectives
- *The Crucible*
- Excerpt from *Farewell to Manzanar*
- Interview with George Takei
- "Antojos"
- Writing Mode: Argumentative Essay

Major assignments throughout the semester may include but are not limited to the following:

- Creative projects
- Independent reading tasks, quizzes, etc.
- Dialectical journals
- Summative assessments
- Socratic seminar
- Media presentations (Google Slides, podcasts, Storyboard, etc.)

****Other selections may be included or substituted at the teacher's discretion.**

A note from the teacher...

I am so excited about the Spring semester and getting to know each and everyone of you! I will strive to work diligently to overcome any difficulties we may face. My goal is to create a fun and safe learning environment for you. Let's have a successful semester together!

Angelia Hannah