

D. Racette
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SG English IV Course Syllabus

The main focus of this English Language Arts class will be to not only improve the basic reading, writing, and speaking skills of each individual student, but to develop proficiency in problem solving, reasoning, justifying ideas, making sense of complex situations, and learning new ideas independently.

Required Materials

- 3 ring binder or 3 subject notebook with folder
- Writing Utensils

These items must be with you in class *every single day*

The following texts will anchor our work this school year:

- *Beowulf* – Anonymous
- *Ready Player One* – Ernest Cline
- *Macbeth* – William Shakespeare
- *Frankenstein* – Mary Shelley

These core texts will be supplemented by a number of other materials, in order to strengthen understanding and to help us make connections. While much of our reading will be completed in class, please be prepared to do some outside of class.

Grading

Your grade in this class will be based on a points system, and be broken down quarterly. You can expect assignments to fall into one of three categories:

- Homework
- Tests
- Quizzes/Projects

All homework will be worth 10 points. Tests, Quizzes, and Projects will be worth varying amounts of points, depending on their length. At the end of each quarter, your grade will be calculated with the following formula:

- $\text{Points earned} / \text{Points Available} = \text{Final Average}$

In addition to the above listed assignment categories, students will also receive a participation grade, calculated with 10 points per week (approximately 100 points per quarter) available. Students are expected to arrive to class on time, with the required materials every day. Classwork

will include note taking, group projects, and open discussions, and all students are expected to participate in the dynamic of the class on a regular basis.

Homework

Homework is a tool that I will use to reinforce key concepts taught in class. This means that it is of extreme importance that you do your homework every night. If you choose to not complete homework on a regular basis, you **will not pass this class**. Homework will occasionally consist of reading conducted outside of school, but most of the reading we do will be in class, together. All homework should be completed neatly, with the student's name and assignment numbers listed at the top of the page (a template will be provided to you). We will also generally review homework assignments at the beginning of class, in order to check for understanding of concepts. This is a time for students to check and correct their work, and ask questions. Late homework will only be accepted for up to 10 consecutive days from the date the homework was missed, and one point will be deducted from the overall score for each day late.

Make-up

Students are expected to maintain a high level of attendance at Winthrop High School (Please refer to the Student Handbook for policy specifics). It is expected that assignments and assessments missed due to absences from school will be made up in a timely manner. It is the responsibility of the students to complete and hand in any and all missed assignments. I will not search for you, to tell you about the assignments you missed. As with late homework, assignments must be made up within 10 days of their due date. Any assignments not made up will result in a zero.

Classroom Rules

- **I have a zero tolerance cell phone policy**
 - This means that **ANY** cell phone use will result in an immediate 15 minute detention, to be served that same day after school.
 - Continued use will result in confiscation of the phone, additional detentions, and/or office referral.
- Arrive to class on time and prepared to work
- No food, drinks, cell phones, hats, or foul language will be allowed or tolerated in this classroom.
- Please respect the teacher, classmates, yourselves, and the classroom materials
- Stay seated at all times unless instructed or given permission to do otherwise.
- Be attentive and quiet when either the teacher or another student is speaking.
- For additional policies and procedures, please see the WHS Student Handbook

Extra Help

I will be available after school **every single day** from 2:20 – 2:50. Students may utilize this time to receive extra help. Appointments may be made for other times.

