

2018-19 English 8 Syllabus—Mrs. Mikula

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mikulaenglish.weebly.com

Course Overview: Welcome to English 8. My goal is to provide a classroom that promotes successful academic achievement, and to prepare and to encourage you for educational advancement beyond high school if you should decide to pursue it. I truly hope you evolve into a life-long learner.

This class will be divided into four modules to assist you in acquiring the mastery of the common core standards within the analysis of complex text, fiction or non-fiction. Refer to the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts for targeted objectives and tasks. Modules are arranged in units comprised of one or more texts; the texts within a module share common elements, including genre, authors' purpose and craft, text structure, or central ideas. Each unit in a module builds upon the skills and knowledge from the previous unit(s). You will participate in the analysis of literary and journalistic non-fiction as well as poetry, drama, and fiction. In doing so, you will build knowledge, learn academic vocabulary, analyze ideas, delineate arguments and develop writing, collaboration, and communication skills.

Your work will lead to acquiring the necessary literacy skills and habits that lead to a successful learner. Assignments will vary in activity and difficulty. Elements of writing (MLA rules included), grammar and mechanics will be emphasized.

Module One, First Marking Period:

Theme: Finding Home: Refugees

Focus: Reading closely and writing to learn

Anchor Text: *Inside Out and Back Again* (Thanhha Lai)

Module Two, Second Marking Period

Theme: Taking a Stand

Focus: Working With Evidence

Anchor Text: *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Harper Lee)

Module Three, Third Marking Period

Theme: Sacrifice and Survival

Focus: Reading closely, literary analysis, working with evidence

Anchor Texts: *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Anne Frank)

Module Four, Fourth Marking Period:

Theme: Sustainability of World's Food Supply

Focus: Research, decision-making, and Forming Positions

Anchor Texts: various poems, short stories, and other texts

(This is an outline. Please note: It may be necessary to add or delete items.)

Expectations

Attendance

It is very important that you attend class. You are responsible for getting any notes, homework or other information after an absence. Check my weebly and PowerSchool!

Homework policy

You must do your homework in order to be successful in class. If you are missing work you will be assigned an ELO (Extended Learning Opportunity). You will be required to attend ELO until the assignment is completed in a satisfactory manner.

Late work will be given a maximum of 70%.

If you need an assignment, you are expected to find it on my weebly, mikulaenglish.weebly.com. I will not be printing off additional copies!

Be responsible.

EXAM

Any student earning an 87% or higher for the semester will be exempt from the exam.

Behavior

As high school students I expect that your behavior is appropriate at all times.

I expect you to show respect to me, other students, and classroom materials.

Cheating/Plagiarism

To steal the language, ideas, and/or thoughts from another, and to represent them as one's own work is wrong. If you cheat, you will receive a failing grade on the assignment and will be disciplined.

A second offense may result in the loss of credit for this course.

Refer to the Buckley Student Handbook.

Grading scale

Grading is based on points.

Late work will result in a lower grade.

The grading scale is as follows:

101% = A+

100-93% = A

92-90% = A-

89-87% = B+

86-83% = B

82-80% = B-

79-77% = C+

76-73% = C

72-70% = C-

69-67% = D+

66-63% = D

62-60% = D-

59-0% = F

Late=L=max. 70% (2 day limit)

Missing=M=0%=F until assignment has
been turned in

Absent=Abs= no points until assignment
has been turned in

Excused=X= no points or penalty

Progress reports: Please use Power School to check your grades. I will not be passing out progress reports.

Passes: These will be limited. Please take care of bathroom visits, drinks and going to your locker before class. You need to be prepared with all materials when you arrive in the classroom.

Cell phones and other electronic devices: Per the student handbook, students are not allowed to use cell phones in class unless instructed specifically by the teacher. I have the right, and will, take any devices. The device will be taken to the office and can be picked up at the end of the day.

Need help or have questions?

I am here early every morning. If you need help please see me. I am more than happy to help you with your homework. The key is to communicate with me. If I am not in my room, please leave a note on my desk. I am also willing to stay after school to help you.

I am looking forward to a great year with all of you!

☺ Mrs. Mikula

Rules and Procedures Acknowledgment English 8 2018-19

We have read the rules and procedures for Mrs. Mikula's ELA class.

Student's printed name student's signature

Parent's printed name parent's signature

Parent's phone #: _____

Parent's e-mail: _____

Annual Movie/Video Permission

Dear Parents,

During the course of the 2018-19 school year we plan to occasionally show PG/PG-13 rated movies in full or as excerpts to enhance our class curriculum.

Our school requires parental permission for your student to view movies that are used in our curriculum, or selected by our teachers, which are rated PG/PG-13.

Movies, along with our hands-on activities such as reading, in-class discussion groups, and research projects, give students a well-rounded opportunity to discover their world. Movies go beyond dry facts and help bring events "alive."

Be assured that we will use proper discretion when showing these movies.

____ Yes, I approve my child's viewing of curriculum and school appropriate movies rated PG/PG-13.

____ No, I do not approve my child's viewing of curriculum and school appropriate movies. I understand alternate learning experiences will be provided for my child while the movie is being watched.

Parent/Guardian signature & date _____

