**College English 12- 2012/2013**

Mrs. Kathy Henkel

784-2400 ex. 3245

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prep: 9:10-10:05

Mrs. Cara Gregory

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prep: 1:30-2:25

Class Website:

[www.khhssuperseniors.weebly.com](http://www.khhssuperseniors.weebly.com)

This course, one of two choices for the required 12th grade English credit, in which ***you have chosen*** to enroll, is designed to improve your reading, writing, and verbal communication skills. Proficiency in these language arts is essential for your current and future success in our fast-paced, highly competitive world. Further, your active participation in this course should prepare you to succeed in your future college academic work. We will be practicing strategies to improve your reading comprehension, analytical and critical thinking skill, and ability to write effectively for multiple purposes and audiences. This translates into **substantial** reading, writing, discussing, and sharing of ideas, so come ready to work individually as well as collaboratively.

**Tentative Outline** (subject to change)

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| --- | --- |
| 1st semester  **Where Am I Going? Unit**  (Plan, resume, college application essays)  **Big Brother is Watching You! Unit**  (annotated bibliography, research essay)  **Power & Control Unit-** *1984,* *Macbeth*  (compare/contrast essay)  **Heroes & Monsters Unit**- *Beowulf*  (extended definition essay) | 2nd semester  **Hero & Monsters Unit cont’d**- *Frankenstein*  (intro/practice literary analysis)  **Societal Expectations Unit**- *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *The Poisonwood Bible*  Literary analysis)  **Where Have I Been? Unit**  (reflective & culminating activities) |

**Grading Scale**

94-100 A

90-93 A-

87-89 B+

84-86 B

80-83 B-

77-79 C+

74-76 C

70-73 C-

67-69 D+

64-66 D

60-63 D-

0-59 E

**Grading Policies**

1. This is a college preparatory class, so **no late work will be accepted**. Essays are due in class on the assigned date, **excuses will not be accepted**—“ran out of ink, “computer broke,” “left it at home,” and “e-mailed it to myself at school and it didn’t arrive.” If you do not have your essay on the assigned date, you will receive a **ZERO**. There may be instances when work is to be emailed to the instructor. Make sure you do so by the assigned date and time.
2. Each assignment carries a weight or point value based on its level of difficulty, etc. Smaller assignments carry less weight or fewer points. See each individual assignment for weight or point value. Each assignment, whether major or minor in value, will be given a score out of 100%. It will then be given a point value or weight value in order to calculate its importance in the overall grade. For example; a final essay will be scored out of 100% and calculated at 2.0 (doubling its value). A homework assignment will be scored out of 100% and calculated at 0.2 (essentially 20 points). Therefore, the essay would be worth 10 times the homework assignment.
3. Just like all other English classes at KHHS, this course employs cumulative grading throughout the semester. There are no Term grade calculations in that your final grade is NOT comprised of 40% for terms 1 & 2, and 10% for the exam. Your semester grade is calculated at 100% of work for the semester. If you have questions, ask.
4. Please note: Your grade in this class is based on the QUALITY of your work, not quantity – meaning not every handout, brainstorm, quickwrite, etc. can or will be graded. Some tasks are just necessary for you to do to practice a skill.

**Expectations**

In order to succeed in this class (and in life) you must follow three essential principles: **Be Organized, Be Active**, and **Be Responsible**. The “rules” for this class can be summed up clearly in each of these three expectations.

1. **Be ORGANIZED:**
   1. Come to class prepared **every** day: writing utensil, notebook, paper, organized 3-ring binder, school planner, flashdrive, and choice reading book.
   2. Keep all of your papers and assignments for this class until you have received your final report card in the mail. Hopefully, by this point in your education, you have developed an organizational system that works for you. If not, see me and I’ll help you. This is your last chance to figure out how you work best and how to prioritize your time and stay organized. Waiting until next fall when you begin college is unwise. Do it NOW!
   3. TAKE NOTES! You will need a spiral notebook large enough to hold your notes/assignments for this course. It will need to be broken up into three sections- Grammar & Writing notes, Article Responses, Responding to Literature notes. This may be collected randomly for grading. Develop the habits of mind to take notes on your own. This is a valuable skill for college.
2. **Be ACTIVE:**
   1. You are expected to pay attention and participate in class at all times. You will struggle to be successful if you are a passive learner.
   2. This is a college preparatory literature class therefore I expect you to take notes as a

college student; I will **NOT** provide a study guide for texts or exams.

* 1. Your final grade *could* be rounded based on your participation in class, your positive attitude, and your role in collaborating with your peers.

1. **Be RESPONSIBLE:**
   1. Be on time – that means IN YOUR SEAT when the bell rings. I keep track of tardies; your 3rd and subsequent tardies will result in Knight Crews.
   2. Be respectful of yourself, your peers, your instructor, and your environment
      1. Cell Phones off and put away at all times – see Student Handbook for details
      2. Throw your trash in the trash cans, not on the floors or on/under your desk
      3. Use school supplies sparingly- these are limited. There will NOT be extra handouts for your convenience.
   3. YOU are responsible for contacting me the day you return from an absence and at the appropriate time. You have two full days to make up work for each day absent. (Example: Absent Monday, return Tuesday, make-up work is due Thursday). Exception: “Previously announced quizzes, tests, papers, and projects are due on the announced due date or the day the student returns” (KHHS Student Handbook). Please write “ABSENT WORK” at the top of make-up work before you hand it in and you must hand it in TO ME. Do not place it on my desk. Please remember that work not made up within the proper timeframe will result in a zero.
   4. Pick an appropriate time to ask to leave the classroom, get supplies, sharpen your pencil, etc.
   5. You must have your planner signed by the teacher before you leave the classroom for any reason. Excessive requests to leave the classroom will be denied.
   6. Turn in your work on time. This is an essential life skill. I DO NOT GIVE EXTRA CREDIT. Please complete your assignments in full, to the best of your ability, and turn them in on time.
   7. Do not be tempted by Spark Notes, or the like, as I construct quizzes, tests, and

exams so that you cannot do well unless you read the entire text and take diligent notes. You will be assessed based on your ability to synthesize your reading with information you gather in class. Expectations will include: a close reading that is attentive to **details** in the text, **your own ideas** generated by thoughts you might have regarding the text, and a demonstration of your **writing skills.** As a friendly warning, I will soon come to know both your ability and your writing style. That means I can spot plagiarism very quickly and easily. Do NOT attempt to misrepresent someone else’s ideas and writing as your own. There are serious consequences for this in this class, in college, and in life! SEE the attached Plagiarism Contract!

* 1. Essentially, you are responsible for YOURSELF! If you have questions or concerns, please take the time to speak to me directly. Next year, your parents will not be contacting your professors on your behalf. So, begin to take ownership of your academic progress. If you have issues with grades or seek explanations from me, I will be happy to address any concerns you have. This means I should have spoken with you about an issue before I hear from your parents. I am available before school, after school, on my prep period, and during ELA advisory time to assist you in any way. Get help if you need it!

**Additional Information**

For the majority of first semester, there will be a student teacher in our classroom. Ashley Gelder is from Grand Valley State University. While we will begin the year together, she will assume teaching duties, under my guidance, within the first few weeks. In order to provide her with a realistic experience, I hope that you will consult her with your questions and concerns, remembering that, ultimately, I am responsible for your learning in our class. Her presence provides all students another resource for help, questions, and encouragement, which surely benefits us all.

Please review this syllabus with your parents; then, both you and your parent sign and date the bottom portion and return it to me by Friday, September 7, 2012.

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I have reviewed with my student the information and expectations for College English 12.

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Parent Signature Date

I have read and understand the information and expectation for College English 12.

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PRINT Student Name Student Signature Date