



BUFFALO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Leonardo da Vinci High School
English Department
320 Porter Ave.
Buffalo, New York 14201
Phone (716) 816-4380
Fax (716) 888-7181

ENGLISH III

Mr. Higgins

mhiggins@buffaloschools.org

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The English III course exposes students to a wide range of genres, including short stories, novels, poetry and expository text written by American authors from pre-colonial times to the present. Selections reflect American society, its culture and values, exploring concepts such as the role of religion in society, Transcendentalism, the effects of war on culture and literature, the influence of past and present attitudes on women's writing, and the ever-changing American identity. The course reinforces students' understanding of the elements, techniques and conventions central to the study of literature that were taught in English I and II. As in every English course, vocabulary instruction is delivered using several strategies: explicit instruction, morphemic analysis, and contextual clues. Research methodology and thesis writing are a requisite part of the course, as well as an in-depth analysis of persuasive and rhetorical techniques.

COLLEGE AND CAREER READY STANDARDS:

See www.corestandards.org/ for the specific grade-level standards.

Students who are college and career ready in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and language are able to do the following:

They demonstrate independence.

They build strong content knowledge.

They respond to the varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline.

They comprehend as well as critique.

They value evidence.

They use technology and digital media strategically and capably.

They come to understand other perspectives and cultures.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Following is a list of the major readings for English III. In addition to the readings, there will be extensive writing over the course of each marking period.

Textbook: *The Language of Literature: American Literature*

Marking Period 1 -

“Of Plymouth Plantation”

“Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God”

“Examination of Sarah Good”

The Crucible

Marking Period 2

The Great Gatsby

Marking Period 3

The Will of the People

Marking Period 4

Hamlet

An independent reading project will be assigned for the first and third marking periods. Book selections require instructor approval.

A research paper will be assigned during the second and fourth marking period.

REQUIRED SUPPLIES:

1 – 1.5” 3-ring binder – to be used for English class ONLY

1 - pack of 5-tab dividers

1 – two-pocket folder

college ruled loose-leaf paper

highlighter

blue or black ink pens – no other colored ink will be accepted

access to Microsoft Word and a dictionary (hard copy or electronic)

NO spiral notebooks

SUGGESTED:

A Pocket Style Manual 6th ed. by Diana Hacker – a quick reference for writers and researchers

GRADING:

- 30% - Major Tests/Summative Assessments
- 30% - Writing Assignments, Independent Reading Projects
- 20% - Quizzes, Binder Checks
- 10% - Homework
- 10% - Classroom Participation

In order to prepare for college, you are required to assume greater responsibility for your education. **Because you are provided ample time to complete your work, late assignments will not be accepted.** The only exceptions to this policy are medical emergencies requiring a doctor's treatment or a death in the family.

POLICIES:

BINDERS/SUPPLIES

English binders are **ONLY TO BE USED FOR ENGLISH CLASS**; do not store other content area materials in your English binder. You are required to bring **ALL** necessary materials with you to class each day, including your binder. Passes will not be issued to go to your locker. Binders will be checked on a regular basis for completion of work and organization (20% of grade).

CELLPHONES, IPODS, MP3 PLAYERS, or any other electronic devices

The use of electronic devices is prohibited during school hours. These devices are to be stored in the off position, in your locker. These devices will be confiscated if they are being used **OR** in sight of the instructor.

DRESS CODE

The Buffalo Board of Education has set forth standards for dress and grooming on school property and at school functions, including, but not limited to the following:

- Must not be revealing (such as tube tops, plunging necklines, short skirts or shorts, see-through garments).

- Must cover all underwear with outer garments; including the wearing of pants at waist level.

- Must include footwear at all times, inappropriate footwear includes but is not limited to: backless shoes, flip-flops.

Furthermore, book-bags are not allowed in the classroom. Although purses are allowed, they are to be no larger than a standard piece of paper (8 ½ x 11).

MAJOR WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

All major writing assignments are to be typed using Times New Roman or Courier New 12-point font and must use 1" margins and be double-spaced. On certain occasions, papers will be turned in electronically via email or flashdrive.

PLAGIARISM

When an assignment is turned in, you are indicating it is your own work. The failure to properly cite your use of another work is plagiarism. All references must be cited according to the MLA guidelines. I will not tolerate academic dishonesty. Plagiarism of any kind will result in a failing grade for the assignment and disciplinary action.

LAVATORY

Classroom disruptions interrupt the learning process and must be kept to a minimum. Ample time is given to pass from one class to the next; use this time to make any necessary trips to the lavatory. ONLY during extreme emergencies should you raise your hand and request to use the lavatory.

EXPECTATIONS:

You will be successful in both academics and behavior.

You can achieve anything you put your mind to.

You care about your education.

I will not give up on you!

CONTACT INFORMATION
PLEASE PRINT

Student Name: _____

Parent(s) Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, Zip Code: _____

Parent Phone/Type (home, work, cell): _____

Parent Phone/Type (home, work, cell): _____

Parent E-Mail: _____

I have read the syllabus for English III and I am familiar with the grading policy and expectations for the course.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____