**English 12A Syllabus**

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**Course Overview**

In Trimester A of English 12, you will be expected to produce “academic writing,” use comprehension, analysis, and interpretation skills in discussing and writing about various pieces within the framework of multiple perspectives/critical lenses.

A. **Trimester Overview**

**Learning Targets:**

* Narrative writing (10%)
* Conventions of standard English (10%)
* Knowledge of language (10%)
* Textual evidence (20%)
* Literary analysis (20%)
* Theme identification (20%)

**Units:**

* College/career
* Shakespeare - *Othello*
* *The Things They Carried*

B**. Belief Statement for Navigating English 12**

*You will be challenged* and may encounter unfamiliar material and discussion topics. If you become uncomfortable, know that this is when you are learning. This is when your skills, knowledge, and awareness will be expanded, changed, and/or refined. Expect to keep an open mind, especially to opinions and ideas that differ from or are in direct contrast to your own. Respect and accept your own ideas in conjunction with others’, and realize that your ideas and position may change as you consider new perspectives.

**Classroom Procedures and Expectations**

**Expectations and Process**

**Work load:** You should plan on some homework – primarily during the essay drafting weeks. The amount of time required to complete work will vary depending on your skills, your ability to concentrate, and your familiarity with the procedure/activity. You should allow yourself enough time to do a good job. Many of you have commitments other than academic work. We encourage you to think carefully about your priorities and limitations; these decisions will have a direct (positive and/or negative) impact on your learning, performance, and grade.

**Formative assessments:** Completing practice assignments and formative assessments are crucial as we work on skills that build toward understandings and your ability to demonstrate what and how much you have learned. There are many opportunities for practice and feedback. Because these assessments are high stakes, each unit will have required formative activities that must be completed in order for an assessment to be considered complete. The assessments will remain incomplete in the gradebook until all formative activities are completed.

**Reassessments:** We understand that all students learn at a different pace, but we do believe all students can perform at a proficient level on all learning targets in this class. We offer multiple opportunities for students to demonstrate proficiency. Teachers may require additional forms of relearning prior to reassessment opportunities. **In order for students to reassess, students must meet the original assignment due date**.

**Academic Honesty:**  All students are responsible for maintaining academic honesty in all of their work according to guidelines provided in the BHS English Department Academic Honesty Policy. Cheating and plagiarism, even if it is unintentional, comes with serious consequences. In this class you will be given the instruction and resources needed to maintain your academic honesty. If students cheat or plagiarize, a series of mandatory interventions will occur according to policy. Students will be required to submit all rough and final drafts to Turnitin.com.

**Attendance**

**Tardies**: Habitual tardiness (you are tardy if you arrive after the bell and before fifteen minutes of class time have passed) limits both your learning and our ability to effectively start class. Furthermore, it’s a poor habit and a life-limiting decision.

**Unavoidable absences**: As we utilize Google Classroom, it will be easier to know what you are missing (and get the work done) when you miss class if it coincides with an activity online. However, it is not a substitute for direct face-to-face instruction and class interaction/discussion. Absences seriously interrupt the flow of optimal learning and teaching. Frequent absences will no doubt affect your learning in this course (and likely the final grade).

**Grading**

Grading for the course is based on three major essays and the district common summative assessment (CSA). Your work leading up to these essays will be recorded in the gradebook so you and your parents/guardians can track your progress. Final grades will be accumulated and assigned on the following basis:

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| **Gradebook Breakdown:**  Narrative writing (10%)  Conventions of standard English (10%)  Knowledge of language (10%)  Textual evidence (20%)  Literary analysis (20%)  Theme identification (20%)  CSA (10%) | 93-100% = A  90-92% = A-  85-89% = B+  83-84% = B  80-82% = B-  75-79% = C+ | 73-74% = C  70-72% = C-  65-69% = D+  63-64% = D  60-62% = D-  59 and lower = F |

The English 12 courses at BHS use a standards-based approach to grading. Each trimester, **students must submit all major common assessments or students will not receive credit** for this course without a legitimate attempt (as determined by the teacher) at each assignment. Writing and research are intensive processes. These assignments do not happen in isolation. The assessments will remain incomplete in the gradebook until all formative activities are completed. Grades are available online and updated as assignments are completed and graded; this is a free, password-protected service available through A-H Connect.