Jarrod Terry

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English III

Room: M 118

English III focuses on **American Literature** with a strong emphasis on writing skills. Understanding American literature is important for a multitude of reasons. Literary movements support philosophical, historical and artistic movements in both America and Europe; therefore, an understanding of the basic movements will support all other subjects. In addition, these literary movements also help us to understand development of some of the basic assumptions and beliefs in American society today. This course will also focus on test preparation, as it is a large part of our students’ grades. Next semester 11th grade students will be required to take the ACT and the writing assessment for English III; consequently, some class time will also be spent in preparation of these.

All 11th grade students will complete several short research-based projects and papers. These assignments are important. There will be a lot of class time and preparation devoted to them; therefore, it is important that students keep up with all assignments. I use a class website and the Remind messaging service to help students with announcements and assignments, so please use these resources

I am looking forward to spending this school year with you. If we work hard every day, this year will be a success for everyone.

**Supplies:**

* Notebook paper
* Something to write with – Pen (blue/black) or pencil
* Highlighters
* 3 ring binder
* Folder to store returned work
* Flash drive
* Index cards
* Post-it notes (these will prove useful)
* Tissues and hand sanitizer (for the classroom)

**Attendance/Make-up Assignments/Late work:**

ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT. Class time is vital, and we will use every minute of it every day. **If a student is absent, it is his or her responsibility to check my website and syllabus for any make-up work.** Students can always email me for questions about assignments.

If a student has an excused absence, he or she will follow the Shelby County Schools make-up policy. This is outlined in the student handbook and on the Shelby County Schools website.

LATE WORK IS UNACCEPTABLE. The highest possible grades given to late work are as follows: one day late = 90%; two days late = 80%; three days late = 70%.

**Grading Policy:**

Grades are calculated based on total points earned. Each assignment is assigned a specific point value ranging from 5 to 300 or more points.

**Rules:**

1. **Be punctual.** *“If you’re early, you’re on time. If you’re on time, YOU’RE LATE.”* I expect all students to be quietly seated when, not after, the bell rings. We have daily bell work which counts for a grade, and if you are late you are hurting your grade (and you will end up in ISS or Saturday School for excessive tardies). Being on time is a showing of respect and responsibility and it is a practice that will pay off 100x over in your adult and professional lives. This also applies to turning in work on time and responding to the teacher in a timely manner.
2. **Be professional.** School is your job while you are here, and at any job, you are expected to be professional. That means you are in dress code, in your assigned seat, prepared with your needed materials, on task with what you are supposed to be doing, and doing your own work to your best ability.
3. **Be polite.** Be mindful and considerate of other students’, teachers’ and administrators’ beliefs and feelings. Treat and speak to others the way you would want to be treated and spoken to. I will not tolerate bullying, fighting, disrupting my time or others time, foul language, or disrespect towards me or anyone else. This is not a drama class and I have no patience for drama.
4. **Be productive.** School is your job and you should always strive to do your absolute best. You are responsible for your grade. You EARN the grade you have. Don’t like it? DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. You’re here to work. My class is not a social club. Save that for after class, after school, or lunch. If you finish something early and you have nothing else to do, I will find something for you to do. ALWAYS BE DOING SOMETHING PRODUCTIVE.
5. **Be responsible.** You are in control of your behavior, work, and grade. To believe otherwise is to lie to yourself. I take responsibility for my actions and will admit to a screw up when it happens (and it will happen at some point, I am a human and I mess up sometimes), and I would ask that you do the same. If you misbehave and receive negative consequences, that is your fault and your responsibility to fix it. If you do poorly on an assignment and hurt your grade, that is your fault and your responsibility to fix it. If you knock something out of the park and earn the highest grade in the class, you did it, no one else. There is an immense amount of pride and satisfaction to be gained from that. Hold yourself to a high standard and you will be amazed at what you can accomplish.

**CHECK THE CLASS WEBSITE!! PRETTY MUCH EVERYTHING WE DO SHOULD BE ON THERE.**

**\*Anything on this syllabus can be subject to change at my discretion.**

**\*In addition to these rules, students will also follow all rules stated in the Shelby County Schools Student Handbook. We will talk about cell phone and technology policy later.**

**Discipline Policy:**

*Violation #1:* Warning (verbal/nonverbal)

*Violation #2:* Student/Teacher discussion

*Violation #3:* Parent contacted

*Violation #4 or more:* Discipline referral

**\*Excessive violations will result in administrative action and/or discipline referral.**

**\*Some violations (extreme disrespect, vulgar language, dress code, cell phones, etc.) will result in immediate actions.**

**My Personal Plan for 2018-2019**

Studies have shown that writing down plans for action increase the probability that these plans will be put into action. So, for your first assignment, you are going to write down how you will follow the 5 rules listed in my syllabus. What will you do to make sure that you follow these rules? After that, you will write down what will happen if you FAIL to follow these five rules. In essence, you are drafting a model of success to strive for, and a model of failure to avoid. This will be your personal plan for my class for the academic year. **This assignment must be signed and dated by both you and at least one of your parents then turned in to me. This will serve as a “contract” between you and me for the year. THIS WILL BE YOUR FIRST GRADE OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.**

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| **MODEL OF SUCCESS TO STRIVE TOWARDS** | **MODEL OF FAILURE TO AVOID** |
| What things can I do to make sure I’m punctual? | What would happen if I decided to not be punctual? |
| How can I ensure that I am professional in my time at school? | If I decided to not handle myself in a professional manner, what would be the possible consequences? |
| How can I strive to be polite to my instructors and to others? | What outcomes could my failure to be polite to my instructors and my fellow students eventually lead to? |
| What can I do to ensure that I am productive in my hours at school, and if necessary, outside of school? | If I refuse to be productive in my hours at school and in necessary times outside of school, what could be the possible outcomes? |
| What can I do to be responsible this year for my behavior and my work? | If I fail to be responsible for my behavior and my work, what could happen? |

**Student signature: Date:**

**Parent signature: Date:**