



English 3/4
Course Syllabus
University City High School
Instructor:

Richard Frink

English Teacher
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

English 3/4 focuses on literature and themes surrounding several literary genres: fiction, non-fiction (functional documents, speeches, persuasive letters), and poetry. It is also a class that develops analytical skills through reading and writing. The writing of responses to literature, persuasive letters and essays, expository essays, business letters, and narrative writing are a major component of the class. English 3/4 is a class sophomores are required to pass in order to fulfill rigorous A-G requirements that are necessary for graduation of high school and for direct entrance after high school into California's State University and the University of California system. Overall, critical and analytical thinking and writing are the focus of this class.

CAHSEE

Through the development of valuable skills that address Common Core Standards (<http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy>), sophomores should aim to surpass a score of 380 on the English portion of the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE). A score of 380 or above displays proficiency in English Language Arts state standards at the ninth and tenth grade level, whereas any score at or above 350 is still considered passing.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- 1) Meet the tenth grade English Literature Development standards for California public schools.
- 2) In cooperation with the social sciences and technical subject classes, build skills in accordance with California's Common Core Standards, as detailed at the following website: www.scoe.net

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS

- *McDougal Littell's The Language of Literature textbook (10th Grade/Blue Book)
- *Independent reading books of students' own choosing.
- *Student Gmail Account – Will be set up (or verified) at the beginning of the course.

PROJECTS & ESSAYS

To enhance their learning, students will not only complete an essay for every unit of study, but they will also complete a project that will enable the student to learn in various ways. Past opportunities for projects have included project menus that included: film production, poetry, research, performance, and journal reflections.

ABSENCE POLICY

Upon return from absence, it is the student's responsibility to locate, pick up, complete, and turn in assignments. Please report excused absences to the attendance office to prevent truancy F's.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

Students use the bathroom at teacher's discretion, as they should go during passing periods and lunch break. Students must sign in and out of class properly. Students will have SIX restroom passes per semester. Non-emergency bathroom breaks are not permissible the first or last 10 minutes of class (consistent with UCHS policy).

Grading Policy:

A variety of assignments in each grading period devise the total grade for the course. Grades are determined using multiple assessments, including group collaboration, individual performance, knowledge of concepts, and completion of classwork and homework assignments.

Participation/Attendance.....	20%
Essay(s)/Speeches.....	20%
Journal Responses/Homework.....	15%
Quizzes/Projects/Group Work.....	20%
Final.....	15%
Other.....	10%

Academic grade in the course will be determined on the following scale:

100-96 = A+	95 = A	94-90 = A-
89-86 = B+	85 = B	84-80 = B-
79-76 = C+	75 = C	74-70 = C-
69-66 = D+	65 = D	64-60 = D-
59 or below = F.		

Citizenship Grade

All students are subject to the citizenship rubric. Failure to have all of the necessary supplies each day will result in a loss of citizenship and academic possible credit. Students are required to attend class each day ready to learn, which includes having all the necessary supplies. These items include:

*A three ring binder (*encouraged, but not required*) to best organize materials, and to keep their monthly calendars for the class.

*Paper - College-ruled filler paper is strongly suggested.

*Pens - Blue and black pen colors are appropriate for my class. Pencil is used only for Scantron tests, not regular English assignments.

Gum Chewing is NOT ALLOWED.

NO FOOD ALLOWED during class time. This includes candy, sandwiches, chips, etc. Water and other drinks are fine as long as they have lids that can be fastened to prevent spilling. The classroom is for LEARNING, not for SNACKING. Anyone caught eating in class will spend their lunch with me cleaning the classroom.

School policy does not allow baseball hats inside the classroom. Therefore, NO HATS!

ABSOLUTELY NO, I-PODS, or CELL PHONE usage during class time. When you enter my class, ALL headphones, CD players, and CELL PHONES must be securely stored. CELL PHONES SHOULD ALSO BE TURNED OFF OR PLACED ON VIBRATE SO AS NOT TO INTERRUPT THE CLASS.

****ANYONE CAUGHT USING A CELL PHONE DURING CLASS TIME WILL HAVE HIS OR HER PHONE TAKEN AWAY AND TURNED INTO THE FRONT OFFICE.***

LATE WORK POLICIES

Homework: Late work on homework is not accepted unless it is due to an excused absence.

MAKE-UP WORK

Students are expected to complete all assignments that were done in class during their absence. Make-up work is the responsibility of the student, not the teacher. I am almost always available before school, after school, or via e-mail to answer questions about what the student missed. Please ask for assistance in this manner. My contact information is on page one of this syllabus.

September 2014

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Thank you for taking the time to read this syllabus with your child. This syllabus is intended to inform both you and your student of the curriculum and expectations of this course. If you have any questions concerning this class or your student's progress, please contact me at mr.frink3@gmail.com or rfrink@sandi.net or call me at (858) 457-3040 x 256. Thank you again, and I look forward to this school year.

Signatures

Print student name: _____

Student signature: _____

Student GMAIL address: _____

Print parent/guardian name: _____

Parent/guardian signature: _____

Preferred Contact Information

Parent Email _____ Is email best for you? _____

Best Contact Phone # _____ Best time to call _____