English I Syllabus
Instruction: Evelyn Hammonds

Course Description

According to the Tennessee Department of Education website, the “Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts outline the reading, writing, language, speaking, listening, and research skills students will need to succeed in college and the workforce.” These are the specific areas we will be focusing on this year. For specific information about the new standards, please visit the TNCORE website at: http://www.tncore.org/english_language_arts.aspx or the Common Core States Standard Initiative website at: http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy.

Some of the selections that may be used in this class include: Book Thief, And Then There Were None, Gathering Blue, House on Mango Street, Lord of the Flies, Odyssey, Romeo and Juliet, Rules of the Road, The Giver, The Hobbit, The House of the Scorpion, The Killer Angels, and To Kill A Mockingbird.

Course Requirements

Students will need the following materials for this class:

- Three-ring binder with three dividers (labeled DOL; Notes and handouts; and Daily Work)
- A 70-sheet composition book
- College-ruled notebook paper
- Pens and pencils

Text Information

For this class we will be using the following texts:

- Mirrors and Windows, Level Four, EMC Publishing.

Grading Procedures

Each assignment will be assigned points. Points will be decided based on the complexity of the activity. For example, journals will be 25 points while an essay will be worth 100 points. At the end of the year, there will be a state End-of-Course examination.
Class Expectations

Students are expected to follow the University School rules as outlined in the student handbook as well as the English Department rules for this class. Other specific rules are as follows.

- Bring a positive attitude.
- Be respectful to the teacher as well as other students.
- Be on time for class.
- Be prepared for class. You will not be allowed to return to your locker once class begins.
- Be an active listener and always participate in classroom activities.
- Complete all assignments. In order for you to be successful in this class, you will be expected to complete all homework and class assignments.

Homework/Late Work Policy

There will be homework for this class on a regular basis. It will mostly involve writing and reading. You are expected to complete all homework assignments. According to the University School’s English Department policies, late work turned late will be assessed a 10 percent penalty for each day late up to one week after the assignment is due. I will not accept late work more than one week past the due date. Please see the attached English Department Policy Guidelines for further information.

Extra Assistance

I will be available every day before or after school for any questions or concerns. I am usually here in the afternoons until 4:00 and am always willing to offer extra help. Please take advantage of this opportunity if you need it.

Parents, please feel free to contact me at any time. I look forward to having a successful and fun year!
Policy for High School English Department

1. All assignments are due on the date designated by the teacher. A grade of 75 percent or less will be assigned for all unexcused late assignments. An assignment turned in on the due date but after the class period is also considered late. Only a hard copy of the assignment will be accepted. Just bringing a jump drive to class does not constitute a hard copy and neither does sending the teacher an email with an attachment. Students should make prior arrangements to avoid computer glitches if a word processing program is used.

An assignment turned in within a week of the due date, can earn up to 50 percent credit; however, the assignment must be completed thoughtfully and fully in order to receive any credit.

A student with an excused absence has one extra day for each day absent to turn in missing assignments. Full credit will be awarded for excused assignments turned in within the time limit. Missing assignments or assignments turned in past the deadlines will receive no credit.

2. Due dates for any assignment that encompasses a week or longer are absolute. For sequential assignments, all parts must be completed in order to receive any credit.

3. Tests, quizzes, and any other make-up work may only be completed on the day the teacher announces. Unless other arrangements are made and agreed upon by your teacher, any work not made up will receive a grade of zero.

4. It is your responsibility to turn in late work and make arrangements to make up any tests or quizzes. Your teacher will not interrupt class to ask for late assignments or to schedule a time for you to make up a test.

5. Students may not go to lockers to get paper, writing utensils, texts, assignments or other materials needed for class.

6. If an assignment is illegible due to handwriting or color of ink, the paper will be returned to the student ungraded and he or she will have one day from the day the paper is returned to rewrite or type the assignment and turn it in for full credit.

7. Each assignment completed must have the student’s name, date that the work was turned in to the teacher, and class period written on it. Ten points will be deducted from the assignment if any information is missing.
I have read the syllabus and the English Department policies. I understand the information presented and will abide by the rules.

Student signature __________________________________________________________

Parent signature _________________________________________________________

Date _____________________________________________________________________