

12th Grade CSU Expository Reading and Writing

Course Syllabus

Mr. Walsh – Room EE18

(951) 894-5750 ext. 6508

Email: lwalsh@murrieta.k12.ca.us

Course Description: Throughout the year, we will practice various forms of writing, including expository essays, personal narrative, active reading, literary analysis, rhetoric and creative writing. Our text will be the readings from the Expository Reading and Writing course. California Language Arts Standards based instruction will include reading, writing, listening, speaking, research and use of technology for presentations.

Course Texts:

Eight Modules from the California State University Expository Reading and Writing Course
Glencoe (McGraw-Hill) *Literature: The Reader's Choice* (Green Edition)

Novels:

Brave New World, by Aldus Huxley

Non-Fiction:

Into the Wild, by Jon Krakauer

Supplementary Reading:

Every student must read a minimum of 500 pages beyond the assigned readings in class. Students may accomplish this by reading one book of 500 pages or several that add up to 500 pages.

I will provide a list of novels from which you may choose. Most of them will be available from the school library or a public library, but I strongly urge you to buy your own books.

You may complete the Supplementary reading alone or in small groups, partially during a daily Silent Sustained Reading (SSR) segment of class. I will hand out more detailed instructions separately.

Materials:

- Pens and Notebook Paper
- Spiral or bound notebook for each novel to take active reading notes (This helps you keep those notes organized in one place)
- Your Brain!

Requirements:

- Complete all assignments on time, including class work, homework and writing assignments.
- Participate in all group activities and class discussions
- Uphold the principles of CLASS in your personal conduct (You know what you should do and what you should not—the rules have not changed since Kindergarten!)

Grading Policy:

I base grades on an accumulated point system. The English Department uses the following breakdown for emphasis of assessments:

Reading Information/Literature	30%
Writing/Projects	30% (Includes your Senior Portfolio)
Speaking/Listening	20%
Language/Conventions	20%

Honesty/Plagiarism Policy

Copying work from another source and claiming it is your own is NEVER permissible. The usual response by colleges and universities is to expel students, permanently, for a single instance of plagiarism. Do your own work – it is the only way you will ever know what you are capable of doing. (See Student/Parent Handbook (p 14) for school policy)

Attendance:

When you are absent, it is your responsibility to check the website for the assigned work. Under the heading, 12th Grade Assignments, each assignment has the same number that identifies assignments in the grade book. Click on the assignment number for any work you missed while absent, and you will see a detailed explanation, and, if there was a handout, a link to that handout. You will have time to make up missing work equal to the number of days for an excused absence; work missed due to truancy, suspension or unexcused tardiness cannot be made up.

Homework:

I will assign homework as needed to supplement class work or complete an assignment started in class. When we are working on novels or other longer works, I expect you to read assignments and complete dialectical journals prior to class discussion. When everyone is literally on the same page class discussions are lively and meaningful. If you fail to prepare for the discussion, you will be lost during class, and you will miss the opportunity to find meaning in the work.

Essays:

Longer essays must be typed, double-spaced, with one-inch margins, 12-point font, Times Roman, medium, one side of the paper. If you turn in an essay that does not comply with this Modern Language Association (MLA) format, you will have one day to reformat the essay and turn it in. After that, I will not accept it.

Conference hours:

My regular conference is period 3. I will also be available after school for questions and/or make up quizzes and tests. See me for an appointment.

Parents: Please contact me by email if you have any questions regarding this syllabus.