

ENGLISH 11

Mrs. Elizabeth Cairns

eacairns@madisoncity.k12.al.us

Course Description:

This course emphasizes the development and use of critical thinking skills through in-depth analysis of various American Literature from 1900 to the present. The class will include opportunities to improve your communication skills through writing and reading, as well as vocabulary and grammar enrichment.

Course Objectives:

- *To read and understand a wide range of materials with a focus on later American Literature
 - *To develop critical thinking skills when listening, reading, speaking, and writing
 - *To further develop the writing process: organizing, writing, revising, and referencing
 - *To improve and demonstrate proper use of English grammar, especially ACT grammar
 - *To enhance vocabulary
 - *To improve communication skills through class discussions, group activities, and research projects
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Classroom Expectations:

You are expected to conduct yourself in a respectful and productive manner. In addition to all the rules and expectations listed in the student handbook, I expect you to have a positive attitude, treat others with respect, practice self-discipline, and demonstrate responsibility. If these conditions are not met, you can expect one-on-one meetings with me, parent/instructor conferencing, and administrative action, if necessary.

Concerning the use of cell phones and other electronic devices:

Devices should be on silent and kept in your purse, backpack, or pocket during class unless otherwise instructed. You may not place it on your desk. Parents, guardians, and other family members should call the front office in case of emergency.

If you violate this rule, you can expect the following consequences:

- *First offense* – The phone or device will be placed in a phone chart at the front of the room. You may pick it up at the end of class.
 - *Second offense* – The phone or device will again be placed in a phone chart at the front of the room until the end of class and a parent/guardian will be notified.
 - *Third offense* – This is defiance and I will notify an administrator.
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Grading Policy:

Major assessments will count 70 percent of your grade. Homework and classwork will account for 30 percent of your grade. Grades will be updated weekly in PowerSchools. Each grading period will consist of nine weeks.

Cheating and plagiarism of any kind are never tolerated. The academic misconduct policy of the school will be followed in this course.

Make-up Work Policy:



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Make-up tests will **only** be given to a student who has an **excused absence**. **The student must make arrangements with the teacher to take a make-up test. Tests may be taken during Patriot Path with prior arrangement from each teacher.** A student only has two chances (the next two Patriot Paths after the absence) to make up a test. All make-up tests will be administered in the designated classroom on the Patriot Path session roster.

Homework/Classwork: Students who are absent for **excused reasons** will be permitted to make up missed work. **It is the student's responsibility to get their work assignments the day upon return to school and complete the assignments according to a time frame determined by the teacher within two weeks of the date of the last absence.** Grades of zero will be assigned for assignments missed because of unexcused absences.

Late work creates a backlog for you and your teacher. Work not turned in on time will receive a grade of zero until completed. Daily assignments that are turned in after the work has been checked by the teacher may receive no higher than 50%. Late tests/grades may not receive higher than 75%. Exceptions may be made at the teacher's discretion, especially for extenuating circumstances. Please communicate with your teacher.

***Text and Other
Required Reading:***

Mirrors and Windows: The American Tradition (textbook)
Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
Night by Elie Wiesel
Macbeth by William Shakespeare
The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
Selections of poetry, short stories, and non-fiction works as well as multimedia texts.
Class and online copies are available for all texts.

***Materials and
Supplies Needed:***

Please bring daily:

1. Pencils/pens and notebook paper
2. 1" binder or two-pocket folder for notes and handouts/printouts
3. 3-4 different color highlighters, e.g. yellow, green, blue, orange, pink
4. Optional: composition or wire bound notebook for daily bellwork

Access to a computer in some form--desktop, ipad, and/or laptop--and an internet connection is necessary from time to time. If you do not have these materials, please communicate with me

Assignments:

1. Daily Assignments/Bell Work (including journaling, note-taking, grammar lessons, and vocabulary exercises)
2. Essay writing; research paper/projects
3. Novel and literary unit projects/tests/quizzes
4. Vocabulary quizzes



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Laptops

Concerning laptop utilization:

1. Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities.
2. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers.
3. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops.
4. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher.

Turnitin Notice

The majority of writing assignments in this course will be submitted to Turnitin via the Schoology learning platform. Turnitin generates a report on the originality of student writing by comparing it with a database of periodicals, books, online content, student papers, and other published work. This program will help students discern when they are using sources fairly, citing properly, and paraphrasing effectively - skills essential to all academic work.

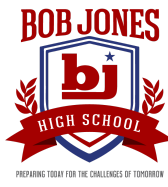
Students will have the opportunity to review their Turnitin originality report and will have the opportunity to make revisions before submitting their work for grading. Once their work is submitted, teachers have the opportunity to view the student/s originality report and grade accordingly.

Accommodations

Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from students and parents.

18 – WEEK PLAN*	
Weeks 1-4	Unit 1 Introduction to the American Dream: class expectations, <i>Of Mice and Men</i> ; intro to vocabulary, grammar, literary terms, annotation, CDC paragraphs, semester themes, literary analysis essay
Week 5	Unit 2 Short stories: “A Rose for Emily,” and “The Life You Save May Be Your Own,” literary analysis; related nonfiction texts
Weeks 6-9	Unit 3 Memoir: <i>Night</i> by Elie Wiesel; background information on the Holocaust, non-fiction articles and videos related to the topic, personal connections and CDC paragraphs: ACT grammar
Weeks 10-12	Unit 4: Justice in the Civil Rights Movement and today; “Letter from a Birmingham Jail;” excerpts from <i>Just Mercy</i> , TedTalks Current Issues Research Project
Weeks 13-14	Unit 5: Drama: <i>Macbeth</i>
Week 15	Unit 6: Poetry of the Harlem Renaissance; other short works
Weeks 16-18	Unit 7: American Dream <i>The Great Gatsby</i> , The Jazz Age/Roaring 20’s; review of themes
Week 19	Review for Final

*This is a tentative plan and may change at the discretion of the teacher.



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_____ **We have read the syllabus** for Mrs. Cairns' English 11 course and understand the expectations for the course and classroom policies.

_____ We understand that Mrs. Cairns will contact us about any concerns or classroom information via the information supplied on this page or the **Parent Contact Google Form**. This will be emailed to parents the first week of school.

_____ **Plagiarism Statement:** We understand that the downloading of material in part or whole, cutting and pasting sections from online sources or copying material from other sources (to include other students) **WITHOUT giving credit to the source by citing it properly, is considered plagiarism** and will result in ZERO for the assignment and teacher communication with parents and administration. Students will be given opportunities to check their work before submitting it using Turnitin.

Please sign below to acknowledge that you have received, read, and understood the syllabus.

Student name: _____

Student signature: _____

Parent/guardian name: _____

Parent/guardian signature: _____

Parent/guardian, please provide two ways for me to contact you (email address, phone numbers):

Parent/guardian Email:

Parent/Guardian Phone number:

***Please feel free to email me with any questions, concerns, or anything you would like me to know about your child at eacairns@madisoncity.k12.al.us