

English 1 Multi-Cultural Literature Syllabus Fall Semester

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Office hours: after school (by appointment only)

The goal of English 1 Multi-Cultural Literature is to improve students' reading, writing, listening, speaking, and thinking skills. Students will be challenged to broaden their thinking, to pose questions, to debate findings, and to inquire about possibilities. The English 1 curriculum follows the Arizona State Standards.

Materials:

1. Loose-leaf notebook paper (Assignments with "fringe" on the side will not be accepted for credit.)
2. Pens and pencils
3. Note cards (I recommend students create a method to organize their note cards as they will be using quite a few of them throughout the semester.)
4. Current class reading, packets, and journals (I will complete random book checks for points to ensure students have the correct novel.)
5. Planner (I will sign these daily before students may leave the classroom. In addition, I will highlight assignments when they haven't been turned in on time.)

Classroom Expectations:

- Students must follow all classroom and school rules
- Students must arrive on time and be ready to work
- Students must show respect for others and their environment
- Students must participate in all class activities and discussions
- Students must bring all necessary materials to class
- Students must maintain knowledge of their grades at all times by using their assignment sheets and checking MicroGrade frequently
- Students must contact the instructor immediately about any concerns
- Students must commit to putting forth their best effort every day

Grading:

A = 89.5%-100%

B = 79.5%-89.4%

C = 69.5%-79.4%

No credit will be earned for grades below 69.4%.

Attendance:

It is vital for each student's success to come to all classes and to come on time. Tardiness is a disruption for the whole class. Students will be allowed three tardies throughout the semester. Each tardy after three will result in a detention. As a reminder, students must check in the front office before they may be admitted to a class they are late for. Students with excused absences will be allowed one week to turn in make-up work. It is the student's responsibility to obtain and complete all make-up work. Students with unexcused absences will not be allowed to make up assignments, and they will be referred to the principal.

Weekly Checks:

There are three things I will check for each week on Fridays: assignment sheets, reading logs, and journals. Both assignment sheets and reading logs must be signed by a parent/guardian to be eligible for points. Each item I check for will be worth five points per week.

Assignments:

- Homework is due at the beginning of class. *Students will not be permitted to turn in homework after it has been collected for the class period.* Students who are tardy are responsible for turning in homework as soon as they come to class.
- No late work will be accepted without a late coupon. Students will receive four late coupons they can use throughout the semester. These coupons are for English only; in addition, they *cannot* be turned in for extra credit at the end of the semester or given away to others. Lost or stolen late coupons will not be replaced. Once late coupons have been used, students may turn in assignments late for one point.

- All assignments must have the appropriate heading and be turned in on appropriate paper or they will not be accepted for credit. Handwriting must be legible to be eligible for credit; if not, it will need to be redone.
- Major essays must be typed, double-spaced with the appropriate heading, and follow MLA standards. All essays must be turned in for a student to be eligible to pass the class. In addition, students should expect to have to make multiple revisions to an essay before they earn a final grade for the essay. Generally students will have essays peer edited and teacher edited before it is given a final grade.
- If a student misses a day of school, it is his/her responsibility to obtain and complete all make-up work.
- Students will not receive credit for any plagiarized work or for work they cheated on; furthermore, student will be referred to the principal for further discussion of the incident. Plagiarism and cheating includes but is not limited to copy someone else's work, giving another student work to copy, and using someone else's ideas without proper citation.
- Students may be required to redo work during the semester. If this occurs, the student's paper will have an "R" at the bottom and a two-week deadline for submitting the redo work. If the student misses the redo deadline, the assignment grade will turn into a zero. It is the student's responsibility to ask for clarification if s/he needs it.

Final Exam:

Students will be given a final exam comprised of paragraph-response questions over the reading selections from the semester. Students will not be given the final exam until all books have been returned or replaced.

Semester Reading:

Students will read the following selections during the Fall semester of English 1:

<i>Anthem</i>	Ayn Rand
<i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	Ray Bradbury
<i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>	Lorraine Hansberry
<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	Harper Lee
Poetry, including pieces from Shakespeare, Wilfred Owen, Rose Furuya Hawkins, Walt Whitman, and Langston Hughes	

Independent Reading:

All students will be required to complete independent reading assignments for each semester. This does NOT include any material that is assigned for class discussion. Students must read AN ADDITIONAL TWO HOURS PER WEEK, using a variety of materials such as books, magazines, or newspapers. It is important that parents monitor their student's reading at home. At the end of each week, students will be required to turn in a signed reading log, which will be collected every Friday, to verify completion of independent reading. This will become a prerequisite for earning a grade in class. In addition to reading two hours per week, students must finish reading a certain amount of books per semester. The grade breakdown is as follows:

A= three (3) books per semester and a minimum of 36 total reading hours

B= two (2) books per semester and a minimum of 36 total reading hours

C= one (1) books per semester and a minimum of 36 total reading hours

Extra Credit:

Extra credit options for students will be few and far between. They will not be available on an individual basis. *Students should not depend on an end-of-the-semester option for extra credit to raise their grades.*

Computer Problems:

Students will be responsible for typing assignments throughout the semester. There will be no exceptions made to due dates because of computer or printing problems. If there is a problem with a computer or a printer, students are to use late coupons to submit the assignment. Students who wish to turn the assignment in on time may use the college's facilities, the public library's facilities, or the help of a friend. I will not accept any homework via email.

*The teacher may make modifications to this syllabus at any time.

