English

Instructor - Mr. Ward School – 308-324-4691
School Year – 2024 - 2025 tom.ward@lexschools.org
Text message: Use TalkingPoints

Goals - For students to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of reading, writing, and speaking as a means to communicate thoughts and ideas effectively.

For students to be able to determine and create intended messages by reading and listening for comprehension and writing to express and clarify.

Objective - Students will read a variety of poems, short stories and novels, write comparatively, informatively, technically, and creatively, and conduct forms of research.

Content - The class will read from anthologies and novels, plus examine other art forms, to investigate form, meaning, and interpretation - in other words, to see how artists and authors communicate their meaning. From these, papers will be written to express ideas and to investigate different areas of style, form, and content. Class discussions will accompany each activity and writing steps will be practiced and implemented.

Grading – Grades will be given for minor and major assessments of grammar, vocabulary, literature, and writing. Semester Tests will account for 10% of each semester grade. Each quarter will represent 45% of the semester grade.

> (Quarter 1 (45%) + Quarter 2 (45%) + Semester Final (10%) = Semester 1 Grade)
> (Quarter 3 (45%) + Quarter 4 (45%) + Semester Final (10%) = Semester 2 Grade)

Grades are divided into two categories – Minor and Major Assessments.

> Minor Assessments (45%) will be the quizzes, homework, and small assignments that are to prepare for the Major Assessments
> Major Assessments (55%) will be formal papers, extended projects, and tests over units of material and novels.

LATE-WORK DEADLINE - When a student is absent, it is up to the student to find out what work needs to be made up and arrange to complete the work. A zero (0) grade will be put in for the assignment until it is made up.

FOR AN ENEXCUSED ABSENCE: Students have two days within which to turn in the work (there is an extra day for each additional day absent – Ex 1 day absent =2 makeup days; 2 days absent = 3 makeup days). Check the Student Handbook.

FOR AN EXCUSED ABSENCE (School activities, etc.): Work will be required to be turned in by due date, which may mean being turned in early. Quizzes and tests are to be taken on the day you return, either during second period or after school. Major projects can be turned in the day you return. Vocabulary stories are always due by the due date

Times to make up quizzes and tests:
- After school
- On some occasions, before school make-ups can be planned ahead of time
- Tuesday through Friday during second hour.

Major assignments will have a fixed due date given at the time it is assigned. If work is not completed on the due date, you can turn it in the next day for 75% of the grade; after that you will get 50% of the grade.
Late minor assignments may receive partial or no credit depending on the tardiness of the assignment and reason for the tardiness.

Overview of Assignment Expectation
Extensions on an assignment will be considered on an individual basis. The main consideration is the amount of work already invested towards the project.

- Homework is typically due the next school day unless otherwise stated.
- Classwork is due at the end of the period unless otherwise indicated. Teacher reserves the right to give unannounced quizzes at any time.
- Tests will be in a variety of forms: multiple choice, short answer, essay, etc.
- Projects will need to be completed in their entirety before being turned in. Incomplete projects will not be accepted.
- All papers/ assignments will be headed with the student's name, date, and assignment.
  - Example:
    - Joe Student
    - 12 Aug 2024
    - Period 1
    - Name of Assignment

- Typed papers will follow MLA format, be in 12-point, double spaced, and one-inch margins, (some may require a cover page).
- Students will work to understand the stories
- Study Vocabulary daily
- Keep up with all assignments (reading, NRI, Vocabulary, etc)
- Use the writing process for writing

Materials - Students are to be prepared for class with paper, pen or pencil, any class book assigned and their school issued iPad. Student owned iPads or computers are not allowed. It is recommended that a binder be used to keep material in. Otherwise, a student can use a spiral notebook and have a means of organizing the papers, handouts, notes and daily vocabulary.

*Parents will be notified when students are failing or near failing.
*It is the responsibility of the student to keep up with the work and turn in assignments on time. Problems with being able to finish on time should be brought to the attention of the teacher before the deadline.

Expectations:
- ✓ Come to class with the right materials for that class.
- ✓ Be in your seat when the tardy bell rings. If you have an assigned seat, that should be the one.
- ✓ Raise your hand if you need to leave your desk to sharpen a pencil or other need. Return directly to your chair. Don't attract attention to yourself.
- ✓ Your feet should be on the floor, not on the furniture, and your hands should be kept to yourself.
- ✓ No locker passes.
- ✓ Be courteous and respectful to others and their opinions.
- ✓ Don't talk when someone else is talking - wait your turn.
- ✓ Assignments and class agenda will be posted online through Google Classroom.

Plagiarism, Cheating, and Misrepresentation through AI – Don't do it. A major assignment that is plagiarized will be given a zero. However, the student can redo the assignment with a new topic and due date, on their own time, to receive 70% of the earned grade. (Plagiarism is using someone else's work as your own). Cheating on a test, quiz, or assignment results in a zero with no make-up. This includes AI infractions.

I have the expectation that you can do the work assigned to you. You will be accountable for all assignments based on the expectation that you have prepared yourself. I understand, and I hope you do as well, that this may take some work from you. I can teach and review, but learning the material is up to you. Getting someone else to give you answers isn't the same as learning. It might get you the grade, but you won't have advanced or learned anything useful – just how to lie and be deceitful.

Online Behavior and Expectation

If we end up conducting school online, there are some expectations I have for students.

- We will use the Zoom app for online instruction and Google Classroom for sharing materials and assignments. We will follow the school's outline for online instruction.
- When students are on Zoom, the expectation is that the student will be in a room free of distraction and background noise.
- The student is to be visible in the camera during the time of instruction. Avatars and pictures will not be allowed.
- Students will be expected to follow the assignment schedule to receive credit.
- Attendance is mandatory to the Zoom meetings. Not attending will result in an absence. If at any time you don't respond to your name being called, have fallen asleep, appear to not be in the meeting, or in any way appear to be disengaged from the online class, you will be marked absent.
- Appropriate dress and manners will also be expected.

Remote Learning

Some students may be put on remote learning.
- Students will email the teacher to inform him of being on remote learning.
- Students will also keep track with the weekly agenda on Google Classroom of assignments as well as assignments posted on Google Classroom.
- It is up to the student to make sure they are keeping up with the work. If students don't understand what they should do, they should contact the teacher to clarify what they are supposed to be doing. As an example, if a student on remote learning returns to school on the day of a quiz, test, assignment etc, they will be required to take that assessment the day they return because they should have been keeping up with the work and assignments.
- Vocabulary can be studied on Quizlet. Students are expected to complete NoRedInk assignments on their own and be prepared for quizzes. NRI quizzes can be taken at home.

General Submission Information:

- Students should submit assignments through Google Classroom unless otherwise directed.
- Written work should be submitted on Turnitin. Student work won't be accepted and may fall under late penalties until submitted to Turnitin
- Unreadable files will receive a '0' grade.

PROGRAMS:

GRAMMAR – we will use NoRedInk to study grammar.

- Students will be assigned a lesson or quiz on NoRedInk every day
- Students should FINISH the lesson each day. This can happen because the program is online and can be accessed on any electronic device, including smart phones.
- If you are absent for a NoRedInk quiz, you can make them up without coming to my room – even from home.
- Follow the Late-Work Deadline schedule already posted in this syllabus.
- If you want to improve the grade of a quiz, you are to send me an email requesting an URRT for that quiz. I only respond to emails with this. If you verbally ask, I will verbally respond that you need to send me an email.
- In order to qualify for an URRT (retake), you should have completed all the lesson work for that quiz by the time of the quiz.
- During each quiz, I will take a screenshot of each student's progress so I know who has completed the work.
- Your email should be something like "Mr. Ward, can I have an URRT for (name of quiz)?" I will reply telling you it is ready, or that you don't get one because you didn't do all the lessons, so you didn't qualify.
- An URRT isn't only for if you failed the quiz – if you want to improve from missing only one question to a perfect score, that is also encouraged. You can request an URRT at any time during a quarter for any quiz or test taken within that quarter.
- You can have up to two (2) URRTs for each quiz or test.

- You will receive a grade for doing the lessons leading up to the quiz based on the average of work completed according to the NoRedInk report

VOCABULARY - Quizlet will be used for vocabulary study, as well as worksheets and Turnitin.com.

- Your Vocabulary grade will be based on the results of two (2) assignments:
  - Original story
  - Quiz
- This means you get one grade comprised of the two.
  - The original story is worth 10 points
  - Each quiz will be between 25 and 35 points.
- Each unit of vocabulary will be 7-8 school days. The deadline for the story and quiz will be posted.
  - Stories are due by the end of the school day, 4 pm, on the due date posted.
  - Stories are not accepted after the deadline because you were given 7-8 days to complete them.
    - Being absent on the deadline doesn't excuse you from this. It is expected that you will turn in the work before the deadline.
    - If you are to be gone for a school activity that occurs on the deadline, you are to turn in the assignments before you leave.
- Stories – Stories are original works using at least five (5) of the vocab terms to write a story.
  - This is not a list of random sentences. This is a story with a beginning and an end.
  - Your story will be graded on:
    - whether the terms are used correctly, both as part of speech and its proper usage (5 points).
    - CUPS (capitalization, usage, punctuation, spelling) (5 points). (This is to encourage good writing skills.)
  - In order for a story to be considered turned in on time, it must be submitted to the website Turnitin.com by the deadline at 4 pm.
  - It is my recommendation that you use six (6) terms for your story in case you use one of the terms incorrectly.
  - Stories don't have to be real or about you – they can be made-up, even made-up stories about you.
  - The stories need only be long enough to use the terms and finish the story.
- Quizzes – Quizzes will be fill in the blank and occasionally sentence writing or other assessment. You will have the terms, parts of speech, and definitions on the quiz.
  - Each blank will be worth two (2) points: correct term and correct part of speech
    - If the term is wrong, but if the term you enter is the right part of speech for the blank, 1 point off
    - If the term is wrong and the term you put in is not a term of the correct part of speech, 2 points off

WRITING – We will use Turnitin.com which is a paper submitting website
- This program will be used throughout the year for submitting your writing assignments
- Often, there will be a printed copy due as well as submitting the paper to Turnitin, and may also be submitted to Google Classroom.
- Turnitin is a program to check for AI, plagiarism, and duplicity.
- It is a tool for teachers to use when grading papers.
- It is also a tool to use to check on your paper, to see if you are using sources correctly.

READING – We use StudySync (access through Clever) for the majority of the reading assignments
- Our reading resource is StudySync from McGraw Hill
- This offers our reading material, except for novels
- Students will be assigned a reading (short story, poem, etc)
- On the day the reading is due, there will be a reading quiz
  - This quiz is to grade you on if you read the assignment
- Next, there will be discussion over the story to review comprehension
- A follow-up assessment will be given next to measure comprehension.
  - These could be a follow-up quiz, project, or writing assignment

Quia.com
- Quia.com is a quizzing website.
- Students will be assigned quizzes and reviews using Quia on language arts terms
- It is the intent that we review the language arts terms and test on them by quarter 1.
- These terms will also be a part of each semester test.

Log in information for iPad Apps

Google   Homeroom: **f7rygcv**
Classroom: Period 1 Eng 2: **u45j6cx**
                        Period 4 Tech: **chmtjo7**
                        Period 6 Eng 2: **t56okzz**
                        Period 7 Eng 2: **zmulk34**
                        Period 8 Eng 3: **xukbjna**

Quia: Period 1 Eng 2: **CREK337**
                        Period 4 Tech: **XCM867**
                        Period 6 Eng 2: **MABJKJ746**
                        Period 7 Eng 2: **MTXN938**
                        Period 8 Eng 3: **KCHR448**

NoRedInk: Period 1 Eng 2: **living breakfast 3**
                        Period 4 Tech: **busy sand 31**
                        Period 6 Eng 2: **fierce net 58**
                        Period 7 Eng 2: **flat wall 80**
                        Period 8 Eng 3: **many stone 90**

Quizlet: Period 1 Eng 2: **Ward Period 1 E2**
(Use the   Period 4 Tech: **Ward Period 4 Tech**
App)   Period 6 Eng 2: **Ward Period 6 E2**
                        Period 7 Eng 2: **Ward Period 7 E2**
                        Period 8 Eng 3: **Ward Period 8 E2**

StudySync: my.mheducation.com/login
                        Login – **firstnamestudent#** (Joe13798)
                        Password – **school password**

Turnitin: Period 1 Eng 2:   **ID – 39961037**
                                                    Key – eng2p1
                        Period 4 Tech: **ID – 39961087**
                                                    Key – careertech
                        Period 6 Eng 2:   **ID – 39961094**
                                                    Key – eng2p6
                        Period 7 Eng 2:   **ID – 39961102**
                                                    Key – eng2p7
                        Period 8 Eng 2:   **ID – 39961177**
                                                    Key – eng2p8