

Course Description: This course was designed as an elective course focusing on the history and literature of classic mythology as well as the King Arthur Legends. This course emphasizes the development of skills in reading and responding to literature, writing formal and informal essays, recognizing and using the standards of the English language and thinking clearly and logically. Included will be a study of vocabulary and grammatical skills in order to improve writing and standardized test-taking abilities. Individual and group projects are included to improve oral and written expression.

SC Curriculum Standards:

Since this course is a tenth grade elective language arts course, it will follow the same curriculum standards as English II. These standards will double as objectives for this class. The following is a brief overview of the major strands of the standards. If you would like a full copy, you can access it on the state department website; I have attached an abbreviated version as well for your convenience.

R1: The student will integrate various cues and strategies to comprehend what he or she reads.

R2: The student will use knowledge of the purposes, structures, and elements of writing to analyze and interpret various styles of texts.

R3: The student will apply a knowledge of word analysis strategies to determine the meaning of new words encountered in reading material and use them accurately.

W1: The student will apply a process approach to writing.

W2: The student will write for a variety of purposes.

W3: The student will respond to texts written by others.

W4: The student will create legible texts.

C1: The student will use speaking skills to participate in large and small groups in both formal and informal situations.

C2: The student will use listening skills to comprehend and analyze information he or she receives in both informal and formal situations.

C3: The student will comprehend and analyze information he or she receives from nonprint sources.

RS1: The student will select a topic for exploration.

RS2: The student will gather information from a variety of sources.

RS3: The student will use a variety of strategies to provide and present information.

Grading Policy:

93-100 = **A** 85-92 = **B** 77 – 84 = **C** 70-76 = **D** 69 and below = **F**

Daily Grade = group assignments, pop quizzes, journal entries, participation = 20%

Quiz Grade = comprehension activities, announced quizzes, in-class projects, notebook checks = 30%

Test Grade = unit tests, unit projects, group projects, presentations = 50%

Evaluation Procedure:

Students' writing, projects, and presentations are evaluated according to predetermined assignment rubrics.

Literary analysis skills are assessed through tests, discussion, and essays.

Vocabulary skills are assessed through ongoing unit quizzes, review tests, and notebook checks.

Students will be given weekly lesson plans that will announce upcoming projects, assignments, and quizzes.

Units of Study:

1st Nine weeks = Classic Mythology

2nd Nine weeks = Arthurian Legend

Attached is an outline of stories/accounts covered for both nine weeks.

Class Rules and Consequences:

1. Be prepared. Have all materials in class each day.

2. Be respectful to others.

3. Be on time.

4. No food or drinks allowed in the classroom or the building.

5. Read and be familiar with all rules in the student handbook.

*First offense = warning

**Second offense = call to parents

***Third offense = referral

Class/Student Materials:

1. Three-ring notebook with dividers- for handouts, notes, tests, etc.
2. Blue or black pen.

Absentee Policy/Make-up Work:

According to state policy, no student may be absent more than five days during the semester and receive credit for the course. When the student is absent, it is the STUDENT'S responsibility to make sure he/she has the assignments for the next day. The student will be held responsible for any and all assignments. Work missed will be filed in each class' missed work folder. If the student misses a test when absent, it is the STUDENT'S responsibility to make arrangements to make up the test within FIVE (5) days of returning to school. If arrangements are not made, a zero (0) will be recorded for that test. I stress the necessity of being in class each day. Students who maintain a regular attendance have a better chance of reaching their academic goals.

Contact Information: I am available for call and conferences between 10 and 11:30 am as well as before and after school. Please contact me if you have any questions at 582 – 4347, EXT. 2136 or through email at willardd@spart6.org. Also, updated lesson plans and assignments are posted on my website at <http://dormanhigh.org/academics/departments/english/denisewillard.aspx>. Parents are encouraged to contact the teacher in order to stay informed of the student's progress.

Please sign and date the following and return to Miss Willard by Friday, January 6, 2012. Thank you.

(Parent/Guardian Signature) (Date)

(Student Signature) (Date)