

## English 11 CP

2011 Fall Semester Syllabus

Instructor: L.A. Jacobs

### Course Description:

This course is designed to develop the communication skills of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and critical thinking as outlined in the South Carolina Performance Standards. Topics in this course will include a study of writers, their works, and the cultures of Pre-Colonial America through Contemporary America. Students will be exposed to a variety of genres during this study of American literature. Writing skills will focus on expository, descriptive, persuasive and technical writing. With each major unit, students will complete one or more performance tasks which integrate the various methods of thinking and communicating.

College Preparatory students are expected to complete a research paper. Our paper will be typed in MLA style and be approximately three pages in length with an appropriate Works Cited page. Students will be researching in the library for this assignment and will work with the teacher on their writing skills and formatting skills. Students are encouraged to take the project seriously and to turn it in on time as it weighs heavily on their grade.

**Materials:** Students will need the following supplies:

- Three-ring binder
- Loose-leaf notebook paper
- Pencils; blue or black ink pens

### Class Rules and Expectations:

- Show respect for yourself and others
- Arrive to class on time and prepared
- Use appropriate and polite language at all times
- Listen to and follow directions the first time they are given
- Be quiet immediately when requested

Students are expected to follow the rules outlined in the Dorman High School Student Handbook.

### Consequences:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Verbal Warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Detention (15 minutes)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Detention (30 minutes) and Parent Contact
- 4<sup>th</sup> Offense: Referral to Principal

### Grades:

The school's grading scale is used for this class:

93-100	A
85-92	B
77-84	C
70-76	D
0-69	F

Grades are calculated based on the total number of points earned out of the total points available.

- Minor Assignments (class work, homework) will be entered as *one grade*.
- Significant Assignments (quizzes, tests) will be entered as *two grades*.
- Major Assignments (tests, writing assignments) will be entered as *three or four grades*.

If at any point your grade drops below a 74, I will let you and your parent/guardian know so that we can work together to make sure you pass the course. Grades are available on PowerSchool.

*Homework:* I very rarely assign homework; when I do, please trust that there is a very good reason I have asked you to do it and complete the assignment.

*Late work:* For each day that an assignment is late, 10 points will be subtracted from the final grade. Please note that *no work will be accepted more than three days past the assigned due date.*

*Missed work:* According to Dorman High School's policy (located in the student handbook), you will have one week (five school days) from the day you return to school to make up any missed work. When a student is absent, he/she is responsible for the work missed. I am available to discuss make-up work before or after school.

*Revisions:* You may revise any major writing assignment until the last make-up day of the nine-week period (Ms. Jacobs will tell you when these days are). Your final grade for the assignment will be taken from your highest revision grade. *Please know that simple proofreading/editing is not considered revision.* I am available to conference with you about your revisions if you schedule time to meet with me before or after class.

**Cheating:** Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated.

#### **How to Pass This Course:**

- *Do your work.* The students who fail this class are the ones who choose not to do their assignments or miss a lot of class time and do not make up the work. Do not let yourself become one of these students.
- *Stay awake.* It is difficult to know what you are supposed to be doing when you have slept through instructions. You are the only person responsible for your work, so do not rely on your classmates to make sure you get it done right.
- *Keep up with your materials.* Bring what you need to class so that you do not waste yours or others' time trying to get a pencil, paper, etc. Make sure that when we are working on an ongoing project that you have the relevant items with you every day.

#### **Contact Information:**

I am available for phone calls and conferences between 8:30 am and 9:50 am. You may also e-mail me at [jacobsla@spart6.org](mailto:jacobsla@spart6.org).

Please sign and return the sheet attached to this syllabus.

Thank you,

Laura-Ann Jacobs  
Dorman High School