

Van Tilburg English 12 Course Description

Objectives of the Course:

This course will be focused on reading and writing. We will average one composition every two weeks. We will take most writing assignments at least through a second draft. Students will choose one essay per quarter to develop through a fourth and final draft. The fourth quarter will focus on an extended research essay on the topic of the student's choice. For the literature we read, we will emphasize discussion, analysis, and application of literary themes to our world. We will read novels, view plays and read shorter works to supplement these works. Films that reflect the themes may also be incorporated into the course. We will also read supplemental articles that compliment what we are learning in Media Arts.

Grading:

The following percentage scale is used (100-90 A, 89-80 B, 79-70 C, 69-60 D, 59 and below F). Class participation, overall effort and attitude, and cooperation will be taken into consideration for a student who between grades. This may help or hurt the student. Extra Credit is available. It is up to you to recognize when you need the points and come to me. No EC is accepted the last week of the quarter.

Reading Materials:

Possible Major Works: *Montana 1948*, *Rescuing Jeffrey*, *Alive*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Othello* and student choice novels.

50% Writing

05-20 points: Brainstorming, outlines and drafts of papers

50-100 points: Final drafts of papers

50% Reading

10-20 points: In-class and homework assignments: These will include study guide questions, vocabulary worksheets, group work, research, etc.

20-50 points: Literary Content Quizzes: There will be objective quizzes over the content of some of the novels that we read for the class.

20-30 points: Vocabulary Quizzes: There will be occasional vocabulary quizzes over words taken from the works.

50-100 points: Essay Tests: These will offer students the opportunity to respond to the "big ideas" presented in the class in an essay format. Students will be expected to demonstrate independent thought and an integration of class discussions over theme, character development and motivation, plot structure, author intent, etc.

Make-up work: You will have the number of days you were absent to make up work. If you are absent on the day something is due, you are expected to turn it in on the day you return. All make-up is YOUR responsibility. You will not be chased down. You need to ask what you missed on the day you return and look in the missed assignment tray. Please check Google Classroom as many assignments can be completed outside of class. You will not be permitted to make up work from an unexcused absence.

Late Assignments: You may turn in an assignment after the due date for 80% credit. If you need an extension, see me BEFORE the due date. No late assignments will be accepted during the last week of a grading quarter.