**Hum. 1 College Prep English Syllabus**

**Ms. Connolly’s Class**

Welcome to Valhalla High School! I am excited about the year ahead as we explore the world around us through literature and poetry.

Humanities I College Prep English is a comprehensive course designed to prepare students for the future challenges in the English Language Arts program here at Valhalla and beyond into college and career. One of our goals in ninth grade College Prep English is to cultivate life-long reading habits by offering a rich exposure to literature across various genres. In addition, students will work on developing effective writing and study skills and be exposed to non-fiction pieces.

Students will have many opportunities to experience learning in the 21st century, using the Google Suite and other online tools to show their learning throughout the year. Collaboration with peers is also a highlight of this course.

Open communication is very important to me. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns, questions, or helpful information—I’m here to help guide you through this year. The following information addresses class expectations, select school policies, and reading selections for the year. My website may be a great resource for parents who wish to see a daily calendar which details classwork and homework, contains a contact me page, and links to important information.

Sincerely,

Emily Connolly

**Teacher Contact Information:**

**Ms. Emily Connolly**

**Email:** [**econnolly@guhsd.net**](mailto:econnolly@guhsd.net)

**Website:** [**www.englishwithmsconnolly.weebly.com**](http://www.englishwithmsconnolly.weebly.com)

**Major Texts:**

*Shadow of the Dragon by Sherry Garland*

*The Odyssey by Homer (Fitzgerald translation)*

*I Am Malala (Young Reader’s Edition)* by Malala Yousafzai

*Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare (Barron’s edition)

**Additional Reading Selections**

In addition to the core reading selections, teachers will introduce selected short stories, non-fiction, and poetry.

**Writing**

The Humanities I College Prep English writing program focuses on establishing a strong writing foundation with opportunities for critical thinking for ninth graders. The curriculum targets thesis creation, overall structural elements of an essay and development of a writer’s voice. We actively team with subsequent grade levels to provide a solid base for students to build upon as they move through Valhalla’s writing program.

**Achieve 3,000**

Humanities I Literature and History will be implementing this online reading and writing program into the curriculum. Achieve 3000 offers online articles and activities to enable students to meet all important readiness goals and to improve their individual reading/Lexile level.

**Classroom Behavior**

* To be a successful student you need to be in class on time, prepared to learn, and be a cooperative class participant. In addition, the class utilizes group work that requires student cooperation and a team spirit.
* In order to keep our new classroom looking nice, no food, gum, or drinks (except clear water in a spill-proof container) will be permitted in the classroom.
* While Chromebooks will be used extensively in the course, no laptops, cell phones, or other electronics may be in use or out on the desk unless directed by the teacher.
* Continued negative participation, including being off-task, defiant, or displaying a lack of cooperation, will not be tolerated.
* Refer to the Valhalla High School Behavior Code for additional information.

If a student is causing a distraction to others, is otherwise not following classroom policies, or is breaking the Valhalla High School Behavior Code, the student may be given a verbal warning, asked to step outside of the classroom, be given a detention or referral, or sent to the Administrator’s Office, depending on the severity of the offense. Students may serve detentions in the English classroom or with administrators. Detentions are typically 60 minutes long and may take place during lunch, after school, or an additional time determined by administrators and teachers. Teachers may also ask a student to come into class during break, lunch, or after school to discuss behavioral concerns before they result in disciplinary action.

**Academic Honesty**

* We take the misuse of academic materials very seriously and do not tolerate any form of academic dishonesty.
* A student using another's work or giving their work for any part of an assignment, with or without his/her permission, will be considered academically dishonest, lose credit, and be given a referral. This includes unauthorized collaboration and plagiarism.
* Two referrals for Academic Dishonesty may result in the student being dropped from class with a loss of credit.
* Refer to the Valhalla High School Behavior Code for additional information.

**Student Work and Photo Release**

Please note that your student’s name, picture or work, including video, may be used on a school or district affiliated website or other digital platform. Student work may be used for educational purposes.

**Attendance**

Because many valuable learning activities take place in class, attendance is essential. The school and teachers are understand that illness and family emergencies may prevent students from attending class. Please read below for Absent Work Policies and call the Attendance Office in the morning to excuse your student’s absence. It is the school’s policy to issue a detention to any student who is truant to any course five times throughout the year.

**Absent Work**

Students have the number of days that they were absent to turn in their absent work. For instance, if a student is absent two days in a row, their work is due on their second day back to class. Tests and quizzes may be made up within one week from the original dates, but the student should be prepared on the day they return to take the test or quiz. **It is the student’s responsibility to complete and submit make-up work. Students must copy down the daily calendar from the class website during their absence in order to stay informed on what they have missed and to complete the work during the absence when possible.** Handouts and worksheets must be retrieved by students from the absent work crate on the day they return to class and are due the following day.Late work is not accepted.

**Late Work**

**Classwork and homework assignments may be turned in one day late for half of the earned credit. After that, the assignment will not be eligible for credit. For Final Drafts of Writing Assignments, Projects, and Presentations, students may turn in the assignment up to 5 days late for up to 50% of the earned credit. Each day after the due date, students will lose 10% of their overall grade.** After five days have passed since the due date, the assignment will not be accepted. Students are given three late passes per semester to use on homework or classwork assignments which allow them to turn in an assignment one day late without penalty. When a student is absent, the Absent Work policy will be followed for all work.

**Required Materials**

Materials should be brought to class every day. Time management and organizational skills are essential for high achievement and should begin with adequate supplies. If you have trouble finding these supplies, please contact your teacher as we may have extras available.

1. Composition Book
2. Pencils
3. Pencil-Top Erasers and Large Erasers
4. 2 inch 3-Ring Binder
5. Ballpoint pens
6. Single Subject Notebook
7. Highlighter
8. Loose Leaf Lined Paper
9. Charged Chromebook

**Grading Scale**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 100 – 90% | A |
| 89 – 80% | B |
| 79 – 70% | C |
| 69 – 60% | D |
| 59% and below | F |

**Grading Categories**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Categories** | **Percentage of Grade** |
| Assessments: Tests, Quizzes, and Writing Assignments | 50% |
| Projects | 15% |
| Practice: Classwork and Homework | 20% |
| Final Exam | 15% |

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**Parent Signature Page**

Student Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Our signatures below indicate that we have read and understood the Humanities I College Prep English Syllabus, including:

Grading System

Late and Absent Work Policy

Policy on Classroom Behavior

Policy on Academic Honesty

Achieve 3,000

Major Texts

Required Materials

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Information**

Parent Daytime Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_