M. Hamilton Point Grey Mini School

2019-2020

**English 12 Enriched**

***Reality, Truth and Perception***

Our political climate in North America, and in other places, has been described as “post-truth” or “post-reality” politics, where appeals to emotion (pathos) are of greater influence and import than the facts or expert opinion. We are going to examine literature this year with this culture in mind. Our theme this year is going to revolve around ***reality, truth and perception***. Accordingly, we will be studying literature from the reading list below.

*Story and Structure.* Second Edition (ed. Laurence Perrine).

*Literature: Structure, Sound, and Sense.* Sixth Edition (ed. Perrine and Thomas R. Arp).

*Hamlet.* William Shakespeare.

ONE of: *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest,* Ken Kesey; *Life of Pi,* Yann Martel

Other selected poems, essays and stories.

Book Club: Literature in Translation

For your book club project, you are going to build on the work you did in Humanities 9/10 on your *literary setting* essays. In partners, you will be asked to select a novel that was originally written in a language other than English. We will have library sessions to explore such titles. Of course, you will look at the novels as literary works, but you will also examine how they illuminate issues involving cultural location and readership. Look to start Book Club in Term 2 and finish in Term 3.

## Course Overview

Welcome to English 12. As an English 12 student, you will study language and literature to further the development of concepts gained in previous English courses. The ***mechanics of writing*** and ***speaking*** will be dealt with on an ongoing basis.

***Writing assignments*** will provide you with opportunities to express ideas in descriptive, narrative, and expository modes. There will be minor and major take-home assignments as well as numerous in-class, timed writing assignments.

As well, ***oral expression*** through class presentations, discussions and dramatizations will be encouraged. Accordingly, I insist that a respectful classroom climate be established where members feel safe to express opinions and feelings, where members feel comfortable agreeing and disagreeing with others.

Look for at least one major written assignment or presentation-based assignment each term.



*“And that’s the truth, even if it didn’t happen”*

Unit Overview**:**

This outline is intended to help in your planning for our year together. While I have listed our upcoming studies as “units”, please understand that the study of literature is not a ‘lock-step’ process, and as such we may move thematically through material. It will common, therefore, to look at literature from different genres while we focus on specific themes.

* Unit One: Drama

Here we will be studying Shakespeare’s *Hamlet.* Remember: drama was meant to be seen and heard. You will be expected to read, act and discuss during our studies in drama. Expect to spend about three months on *Hamlet.*

* Unit Two: Fiction

Here we will study *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* or *Life of Pi*. Our approach to each of the novels will be significantly different: look to study one of the novels in a literature circle approach. Expect to spend about two months on each novel.

* Unit Three: Short Fiction

This unit is extensive and extremely relevant to both our studies in language arts and also to your success on the provincial exam in June. This unit will not only expose you to literature that you may not have encountered before, but also, in your analysis of this literature, will provide you with invaluable practice for the provincial exam. You will become familiar with literary terms and be able to apply them in meaningful discussions about fiction. Expect to spend from two months studying short fiction.

* Unit Four: Poetry

Poetry is the most compact form of literature. Being able to meaningfully respond to poetry is an essential language arts skill. The analysis of poetry is no stranger to the Provincial exam. Expect to spend about one month reading, responding to, and writing poetry.

* Writing Mechanics

This ongoing ‘unit’ deals with honing your editing skills with the aim of improving your writing fluidity and preparing you for the provincial exam. We will have regular editing sessions, using student work or prepared mechanics exercises

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* Essays

We will look at the descriptive, narrative, expository and persuasive forms of essays and you will have an opportunity to express yourself using each of these forms over the course of the year. This unit is also ‘on-going’.

Assignments:

I expect assignments to be neat and clear, preferably word-processed and always double-spaced. On major assignments, a title page is necessary clearly showing your name, date, course, teacher, and block. Always have a duplicate assignment in case your dog eats the first or the computer fouls up. I will give you enough time to complete assignments; please give *yourself* enough time to complete them. Late assignments will be penalized with deductions ranging from 10-15% a day. “Make up” tests and assignments are a problem for both the other students and me. They resent the extra time given to late individuals and resent the extended waiting period for returning graded assignments in the event of late submissions by their classmates. Be on time.

At discretion of teacher, students may be asked to resubmit whole or part assignments until learning expectations are met. Until those expectations are met, students will receive an “I” (in progress) grade on that task or part of task. Students will be asked to conference with teacher in tutorial or other time in order to give them the best opportunity to meet the task expectations.

Make yourself familiar with “Cheating- Possible Consequences” in your agenda. Tutors can be valuable assistance but remember that work submitted must be wholly your own and there should be little differences between in-class and out of class writing. Plagiarism and cheating are serious offences.

Written assignments will be marked holistically: the quality of your writing is more than the sum of its parts. Areas for consideration include: organization, ideas/content, fluency, cohesion, voice (sense of audience), diction (word choice), and mechanics. Please refer to my evaluation rubric for written work which will be posted at pghamilton.weebly.com and often with assignments as they appear in the Planbook.

Evaluation:

Year Evaluation Mark Distribution

Term One 33%

Term Two 33%

Term Three 34%

# Term Evaluation Distribution

Assignments (i.e.: essays, writing exercises, projects) 45%

Tests and Quizzes 35%

Citizenship (homework checks, attendance and participation, etc.) 20%

Please visit www.pghamilton.weebly.com for access to ***Mr. Hamilton’s Planbook***, updates on assignments, evaluation rubric and downloadable class hand-outs.

