

TWELFTH-GRADE ENGLISH
SYLLABUS
MR. BOYD
2013-14

Welcome to your senior English class. This class is aligned to the California State Content Standards for twelfth-grade English and the school's Raider Goals. Furthermore, successful completion of both semesters of this class with a C grade or higher will fulfill a part of the A-G requirements for the UC and CSU systems. Therefore, you will continue to refine your skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking, and these skills will be integrated in a comprehensive study of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the twentieth century.

The following titles will be prominent in your study of British literature this year. However, this list does not include all of our reading selections this year.

The Anglo-Saxon Period	<i>Beowulf</i>
The Medieval Period	<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i> , and <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> : "The General Prologue," "The Pardoner's Tale," and "The Wife of Bath's Tale"
The Renaissance	<i>Macbeth</i> and selected poems by William Shakespeare, Ben Jonson, and Andrew Marvell
Seventeenth-Century	"A Modest Proposal"
Romantic Period	Selected poems by John Keats, Percy Bysshe Shelley, William Wordsworth, William Blake, and Lord Byron
Victorian Period	<i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> and selected poems by Thomas Hardy, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Christina Rossetti, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and Alfred, Lord Tennyson
Twentieth-Century	<i>Pygmalion</i> , <i>Nineteen Eighty-four</i> , and selected poems by Dylan Thomas and T. S. Eliot

This class will require an organized notebook with four dividers and a pencil pouch.

All students are required to bring their own materials, including blue or black ink pens, pencils, highlighters, and lined paper to class every day.

This class will prepare you for success in college-level English classes. In addition to reading and writing, you will prepare and deliver presentations. You will complete bi-weekly research tasks using *MLA*, and you will refine your vocabulary by studying words from SAT and college-level vocabulary lists, as well as vocabulary selected directly from whole works, such as *Macbeth*, *Nineteen Eighty-four*, and *Pygmalion*.

**CLASSROOM NORMS
ENGLISH 12**

Raider Goals: Thinkers, Contributors, Communicators

- **Be here.** Attendance is compulsory and necessary. It is incumbent upon you that you attend class every day, and that you are on time. Absences result in missed learning opportunities that cannot be reproduced, and tardiness is distracting to the learning process for the entire class. If you are not in your assigned seat when the late bell rings, you are tardy.
- **Be prepared.** Come to class with all necessary materials. I will not be able to provide materials for you. Have all homework done **before** you enter the classroom. Check *boydlit.weebly.com* daily to keep up to date with your assignments.
- **Avoid distractions.** Do what the class is assigned. Turn off all electronic communications and entertainment devices. Keep work for other classes stowed away. Speak freely, but remember to conduct yourself responsibly. Above all, stay focused on the day's lesson. Do not bring food or beverages into the classroom. I allow drinking water only.
- **Be respectful.** Show respect to everyone and to all property.

Student grades are based on an accumulation of points in four distinct, weighted categories. These categories are ESSAYS AND PROJECTS, TESTS AND QUIZZES, PARTICIPATION, and ROUTINE ASSIGNMENTS. Please note that I do not round grades.

Grades are awarded for the following percent totals:

A+ 98-100

A 93-97

A- 90-92

B+ 88-89

B 83-87

B- 80-82

C+ 78-79

C 73-77

C- 70-72

D+ 68-69

D 63-67

D- 60-62

F any total below 60

Absences

This is the student's responsibility.

The student is responsible to verify all absences the day he/she returns to class. In the event of an excused absence, the student must request make-up work. Most assignments and a daily agenda can also be found online at boydlit.weebly.com. It would be wise to check this webpage daily, especially during an absence. Students who are on campus but do not attend my class must still submit homework to me or to my mailbox by the end of the school day or it will be considered late.

Late Work

*I will accept late work for **half credit** if it is turned in **within 24 hours** of collection, but I will not accept work if it is more than a day late. If a student is absent the day any assignments are due, the student must submit those assignments immediately upon return from an excused absence. Assignments are typically collected within the first five minutes of class. There is no grace period. If a student absence is unexcused, unverified, results from BIC, truancy, or suspension, any missing work, test, essay, or quiz score resulting from that type of absence may not be made up or submitted for credit and will be recorded in the grade book as a "0".*

Make-up Testing

*In the event of an excused absence on the day of a test or in-class essay, students must make up tests or essays on **the following Friday at 3:03**. Students may not make up pop quizzes.*

Pop Quizzes

*Pop quizzes (which are unannounced and designed to measure student progress and preparedness by a specific date) may not be made up under any circumstances. A student who misses a pop quiz for an excused absence will be excused from that quiz—no more than two quizzes per grading period. Quizzes are typically administered within the first fifteen minutes of the period. Students are expected to be seated when the bell rings; there are no accommodations made for students who enter class during a pop quiz. A student who misses an excess of **two** pop quizzes in a given grading period will receive a score of the average of all his/her preceding quizzes that grading period minus 20%.*

Participation

Students receive monthly participation scores for such things as attentive participation in the class, attendance, and preparedness. I deduct participation points for students who have unexcused tardies, unexcused absences, unverified absences, absences resulting from BIC, suspensions, truanancies, and students who engage in such behavior as sleeping, cell phone use, side talk, or studying for other classes during this class period. Students may forfeit participation points for failure to participate in class activities (such as presentations of current events), and those students will not be reinstated in good standing and will not earn additional participation points until such time as they fulfill their responsibility to the class and make up the missing activities for no credit. I conduct unannounced book checks and announced binder checks periodically throughout the year. Per English department policy, participation is 15% of the student's grade.

Academic Honesty

My expectation is that all work students submit for this course will be authentic and original work. All intellectual property students reference in their work that is not their own must be properly documented using MLA format. Using undocumented resources or copying another's original language, thought, or ideas constitutes academic malpractice, as is copying test and quiz answers or obtaining answers and/or questions prior to a test or quiz. An act of plagiarism, cheating, or academic malpractice will earn a student a "0" on that assignment; two acts of plagiarism, cheating, and/or academic malpractice will result in a "W" from this course.

Parents:

Have your son/daughter return this page **with your signature** to me Friday, August 23. Your signature verifies that you have read and understood the rules and syllabus for this class. Note that this signature is required. If you feel unable to sign this page at this time, please contact me at bboyd@rowland.k12.ca.us, providing your child time to return this signature before the due date.

Please print all requested information and sign at the bottom.

Mr. Boyd

Student's name _____ Per _____

Parent's name _____

Parent's home phone _____

Parent's email _____

Parent's signature _____ Date _____