

English III

Course Syllabus

Mrs. Melissa Noël
Cleveland High School
Spring 2012

Course Description

This course combines American literature, vocabulary, grammar, and composition. We will spend the year reading novels, short stories, plays, poems, and essays while improving your comprehension, communication, and analytical skills. In essence, we will read works of literature by American authors, discuss the work, and then write on a related topic. There's something else very important going on this semester, too, and I know you've heard about it – the Graduation Project Research Paper. While you will complete the project in English IV, we will write the paper and complete many of the components in this course.

Graduation Project Paper

All English III students must write a Graduation Project Paper in order to receive credit for the course. In addition to the class grade, there will be a graduation project pass/fail grade for the paper that will be recorded on the students' transcripts. Students must pass the Graduation Project in order to graduate from a school in Johnston County. If a paper does not pass and the student passes the course, the student will receive a 68 in the course **until** he or she submits a passing paper. If a student has not passed the course **and** the paper by the end of the school year, that student must attend summer school (for the paper or the course) to earn credit before being enrolled in English IV.

Expectations

As a junior, there are many expectations and requirements in and around school. For this class, you are expected to:

1. Follow directions;
2. Respect your classmates and your teacher;
3. Be prepared for class every day by having the required materials;
4. Be on time and ready for class to begin when I am;
5. Avoid class interruptions;
6. Be in class every day unless you are too sick to do so; and
7. Take care of personal problems such as restroom visits and peer-related situations before or after this class.

I do not allow my class to be disrupted by students either in my class or outside. You will not be permitted to leave unless it is an emergency, nor can your friends communicate with you once class has started.

Consequences

There are consequences for poor choices and bad behavior. As you can imagine, I will not tolerate unruly or disrespectful students. I will warn you once, and that warning may be verbal or it may be nonverbal in the form of a "stern" look. After that, I will speak to you in private. If the situation does not improve, you can expect one or all of the following to occur:

- Parent/Guardian contact
- "Time Out" for the remainder of the block
- Detention
- Referral to counselor/coach/EC or ESL teacher
- Referral to administration

Supplies

Required supplies:

1. A notebook (spiral or 3-ring binder with paper)
2. 2-pocket folder with fasteners
3. Highlighters
4. Pens, Pencils
5. Paper
6. Flash Drive (recommended)

Donations

I have a Student Center will miscellaneous school supplies for those days that you forget or lose your materials. While out shopping, please consider

purchasing something (pens, pencils, etc.) for the classroom. All donations are greatly appreciated. I really need more Kleenex for the class.

Communication

I am available for consultation before or after school by appointment, or you may contact me via the Internet. I regularly check my email and do not mind if you contact me for questions. My email address is: melissanoel@johnston.k12.nc.us. My lessons and calendars are online at <http://msnoel.com>, so please check the website often and bookmark the page for your class calendar. Handouts and supplemental information can be found on this site, too. **Everything is on this site.** If you lose the handout, it can be found online.

Essay Policies

We will write essays in addition to the Graduation Project research paper. Please remember that all printer and computer issues are **your** responsibility. The essay due date is not negotiable and a letter grade will be deducted per day that the paper is late regardless of the problem. (This is at the teacher's discretion. Exceptions may be made after a parent/teacher conference.) Plan in advance and make sure that the paper is turned in at the beginning of class, and there is no excuse that I will accept. Essays should be emailed or brought to school regardless of your attendance to my class.

We will be doing research during this course for the Graduation Project and for other essays and projects, and you will be expected to be ethical regarding your use of sources and information. We will discuss plagiarism in detail, but I want you to know now that I take plagiarism seriously. Do not copy or cheat on **any** assignment in my class.

Our school is moving towards a paperless facility, so students will be required to store documents on Google Docs, and the Graduation Project will be managed in an electronic portfolio. If you do not have a Gmail account, please set one up immediately and record your user name and password in a safe location.

Homework

I assign homework 2-3 times a week. You need to keep up with your homework by **writing down your assignments**, and I recommend you keep a calendar or assignment book. The online calendar on Gmail is an excellent way to manage appointments and dates; this calendar syncs with smart phones, so it is great for those of us who prefer digital documents.

Power Lunch

There will be multiple opportunities for students to receive remediation and support from me during Power Lunch. Please take advantage of these opportunities to make-up assignments, ask questions about essays, request re-teaching, or discuss class issues. Students will be required to attend Power Lunch throughout the semester, but the option is always available for those that need assistance.

My Schedule:

- 1st Block – AP Language and Composition
- 2nd Block – Planning
- 3rd Block – AP Language and Composition
- 4th Block – English III

Absences

Johnston County attendance policy clearly states that students are permitted four absences (excused or unexcused) each nine weeks. Students will receive a failing grade of 69 for excessive absences. If absent, students should check <http://msnoel.com> and ask me about the material that was covered. Please ask me about missed assignments during Power Lunch. You have **two** days (per excused absence) to make up assignments. Students are responsible for obtaining notes, assignments, handouts, etc. A "1" will be recorded in the grade book until the assignment is made up. This is just

a placeholder to remind us both that the assignment needs to be made-up. All late work must be completed two weeks before the grading period ends. Test and quiz corrections are allowed.

When you are absent, you must get a Pink Slip from Student Services BEFORE class begins and show it to me immediately. Students who do not have a Pink Slip when they arrive to class will receive a tardy. Students who show up late in the morning must also go to Student Services to obtain a pass. The consequences for being late to class are as follows:

1st Tardy – Warning

2nd Tardy – Parent Contact and Unexcused Absence

3rd Tardy – Parent Contact and Detention

4th Tardy – Parent Contact, Additional Unexcused Absence, and Administrative Referral

Electronic Devices

If your phone rings, I am required to write you up. Make sure that your phone is off in my class and completely out of sight at all times. You may only use an mp3 player with permission during special times after a Listening Device Contract has been signed and returned. Have your ear buds out when I am speaking or I **will** take them.

Final Words

I am more than willing to help students who put forth effort in my class, but you have to demonstrate an interest and effort. More than anything, I want each student to be successful, and I know you have to want that, too, so we are bound to be successful this year.

You can always find me in at the school or online through my email account. Please email me if you have any questions or problems.

Melissa W. Noël

English Department

melissanoel@johnston.k12.nc.us

<http://msnoel.com>



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This is your first homework assignment. You must get this signed and returned by tomorrow. This document guarantees that you read Mrs. Noël's syllabus for English III and understand her course requirements, rules, and guidelines.

Parents: Please remember that students may correct tests and re-write essays in English III. I am available during Power Lunch three-four times a week. Lesson plans, assignments, and supplemental information are located on <http://msnoel.com>. Progress Reports will be distributed every three weeks. The first Progress Report goes home February 15th, 2012.

Please PRINT the student's name here: _____

Student's signature

Parent's Name (Please print neatly)

Student's Email Address (if desired)

Parent's Email Address

Student's Cell Phone Number

Parent's Cell Phone

Home Phone Number

Preferred method of contact (circle): **Phone** **Email**

Additional Comments? Please make me aware of accommodations that will assist me with educating your child. Private concerns can be emailed to melissanoel@johnston.k12.nc.us. Thanks!