

Language Arts 12: Science Fiction and Fantasy Composition Syllab

Reynolds High School 2023-24

Instructor: Annelly Pereira

Room: 503

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Website: Schoology

OFFICE HOURS–Tuesday-Thursday 3:00-3:30PM or prearranged before school

Course Description: Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

Read and write about science fiction and fantasy literature relating to the future, visionary scientific endeavor, and fantasy worlds that interact with mythology and philosophy. Study contemporary issues in Science Fiction (artificial intelligence, technology, cloning, new Alternate Reality technology, human psychology in a futuristic environment), and multicultural influences/writers in modern Science Fiction and Fantasy literature.

Major Concepts/Content: Language Arts 12 is a required Senior course preparing students for the challenge of post high school graduation, college, or trade schools. In this year-long course, students become better readers, writers, and speakers both collectively and independently. Students read, write, and reflect on poetry, narratives, essays, and current events. Overall, this course demands active, critical, reflective, and creative thinking skills, high-level questioning, and real-world application activities. The focus of this year's literature and writings will have students reflect, gain understanding, compare, and evaluate systems and practices of literature that is globally focused.

Recommended Materials for Class (Chromebook and Internet are required.)

1. Notebook devoted to LA 12
2. Pencils, Pens, Highlighter
3. Computer with internet access
4. Two pocket plastic portfolio folder with prongs to hold papers in place
5. Small Post-it notes for taking notes in text

Grading

Percentage of Grade Points

Projects–Summative Writing and Presentations: 70%

Daily Work–Weekly Formative Assignments: 25%

POWER–Check-ins: 5%

Grade Percentages:

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D= 60-69%

F = 0-59%

Scoring breakdown: Rubric will be given for all Summative assessments

6 Points= Mastery

5 points = Near Mastery/Exceed Proficiency

4 points = Proficient

3 points= Near Proficiency

2 points= Developing Mastery/ Developing Proficiency

1 point = Beginning Proficiency

0 points Missing or Incomplete

Major units of study

Major units to be covered over the course of the year will include:

Semester 1:

Literary elements and devices explored through pieces of literature

Literature focus:

World myths: mythology/legends/fairy tales from various cultures and periods of history

Novel: "Norse Mythology" by Neil Gaiman

Earliest fantasy writing: various pieces of writing from around the world (1500-1800s)

Writing: Narrative Writing, Expository Writing

Semester 2:

Short Stories: various modern (20th and 21st century) science fiction and fantasy short stories from around the world (1900s-2000s)

Novel Study: "The Hobbit" JRR Tolkien, and "Binti" by Nnedi Okorafor

Literature Circles: Students will self-select a novel for modern Literature Reading Circles

Writing: Literary Analysis/Expository Writing

(Note: This list may be amended or adjusted as needed.)

Community Expectations

- MUTUAL RESPECT:** Respect goes two ways: from student to community, from community to student. This means the student respects their classmates, teacher, classroom, the day's lesson, and self. At the same time, the community shows respect to each student and their opportunity to learn. I trust students are doing their own work and following the day's lesson as best as they can. Furthermore, I respect each student's voice and invite contributions to the day's lesson.
All members of the learning community will refrain from personal attacks and any form of bullying. During class presentation, break-out groups, and independent work time students are expected to put in 100% effort to be courteous and learn from their teacher and classmates. I, in turn, learn from my students.
Students must follow the classroom policy of putting phones away when they enter the room. This means that phones should be in their bags unless specifically told they may have them out.
Students should bring their Chromebooks or personal computers to **school each day- fully charged.**
- RESPONSIBLE COMMUNICATION:** Students have a shared responsibility, along with myself, to build a positive and collaborative community. Each student is expected to be actively engaged in listening, reading, writing, and speaking each day. Whether the speaker is me or a classmate, pay attention and be kind. If absent, that student is responsible for making up missing work by checking the electronic folders in Schoology or the file cabinet in class for the missing work and asking questions.
- GROWTH MINDSET:** Students are **not** expected to be perfect, only to be actively working toward growth throughout the school year. Being flexible with each other is as important as pulling our own weight. As part of this expectation, **students may revise and resubmit any score they are dissatisfied with until the deadline at the end of the semester.**
- Handbook and Schoolwide Expectations:** Students must follow the rules and expectations in the Student Handbook. There are no exceptions to this. If you have any questions about the Student Handbook exceptions, please read through them together to understand school wide policy and expectations.

5. Please note that plagiarism is unacceptable in this course. Students are supposed to submit work that is entirely their own work and thoughts. If a student plagiarized any part of their work, that assignment will not be graded. Plagiarism includes copying other students' work. Because it is virtually impossible for me to know which student did the original work, both students will receive a "0" grade. I will notify the parent/guardians of the student. Plagiarism also includes submitting work created by Artificial Intelligence.

Work Submission and Late Work

In general, most student work needs to be submitted to me in my hand and in person, **not in Schoology**. There are few exceptions to this, and I will make that notation on the handouts for the assignment. I have created files in Schoology for looking at missing work, **but students are not to submit assignments in Schoology unless specifically told to do so.**

There is a file cabinet in the classroom for students to access any handouts and work that students have missed.

Students are responsible for meeting deadlines. However, due to the nature of gaps in learning and struggle to get back into the expectations of school students will not be penalized for late work during the first semester. **I will accept all late work in the quarter that it is given, so each quarter will have a hard deadline.** I ask students to communicate via email in a timely manner to guarantee late work is counted.

Syllabus Review

After reviewing and discussing your Language Arts 12/ *Science Fiction and Fantasy and Composition* Syllabus with your parent or guardian, please complete the following information and turn this paper in to Ms. Pereira by September 19th.

Parent/Guardian: *I have read, understand, and agree that my students will abide by the course syllabus and expectations for Language Arts 12/ Science Fiction and Fantasy and Composition.*

Parent signature: _____

Parent's printed name: _____

Date: _____

Student: *I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the course syllabus and expectations for Language Arts 12/Science Fiction and Fantasy and Composition. In addition, I understand that ultimately I am in charge of my own learning and education, and therefore will put great effort toward being the most responsible and successful student I can be.*

Student signature: _____

Student's printed name: _____

Date: _____