**English III**

Mrs. Pietrowicz

Room: 246

Phone: (860) 870-6818 x-10246

E-mail: cpietrowicz@tolland.k12.ct.us

Welcome to English class!

This semester we will explore a wide range of American Literature from the 1600s to the present day. Some of the reading and assignments are challenging, but are meant to inspire you to think independently, support your thoughts and beliefs and allow you to grow. By the end, you’ll have a good sense of what’s happened so far in American history through the literature we read and how these movements, events, and thematic concepts are still prevalent in today’s America. I also hope that by the end of this class, you’ll have experienced a couple of works that stay with you forever.

Through our texts, we will search for the answer to our main essential question for this semester: “What is America’s Story?”

Some of our guiding questions in the search for these answers will be:

* Is the American Dream more likely to inspire or destroy us?
* To what extent is America a dystopia?
	+ How do authors/speakers use rhetoric to influence our beliefs?
* How does our identity influence our perception of freedom?
* To what extent does our identity influence who we include and exclude in society?

 **Our units will explore these broad thematic topics:**

1. American Dreams & Nightmares
2. American Utopia/Dystopia
	1. Rhetoric, Persuasion, & Speech
3. Perceptions of American Freedom
4. Insiders & Outsiders

**Some major works that we will be reading this semester to help us answer these questions** depending on time and availability:

*Elements of Literature: Fifth Course-- Literature of the United States* (selections)

***Fahrenheit 451\****

***Their Eyes Were Watching God\****

***The Crucible\****

*Into the Wild*

*The Great Gatsby*

*The Catcher in the Rye*

*Of Mice and Men*

Free choice reading/free-choice writing

**Other Major Tasks**

Research Projects

Journal and Essay/Paper Writing

MLA Guidelines

Vocabulary Units

Targeted Grammar Instruction

Group and Individual Projects

Individual Speech

Narrative Writing

Resume Building

College Essay

(Other tasks may be added as appropriate)

**Grading:**

Grades are broken down into two categories, formative and summative assessments. The value or weight of any assignment is determined by the point value given to that assignment.

Semester Grade

 Quarter 1 45%

 Quarter 2 45%

 Final 10%

**Summative assessments:** (tests, papers, projects, presentations, etc) are graded numerically. Scores earned for a summative assessment will count toward your numeric average in the course. They will also be weighted according to their length and difficulty. Formative assessments will either be scored or simply checked for completion. Scores earned for completion of formative assessments will be considered when your classroom etiquette and effort are rated on the THS Behavioral Expectations Matrix. Scores earned on the Behavioral Matrix will appear as standards-based grades in PowerSchool. Averages of these scores will also appear on your THS transcript.

Tests are summative assessments that will be announced and scheduled with plenty of time for review and extra help. Quizzes may be categorized as formative or summative assessments and may not always be announced.

**Finals:** The format for finals is yet to be determined. However, plan accordingly to study throughout the semester in preparation for a cumulative final exam.

**Food for Thought:**

* Almost all assignments are submitted to Google Classroom. This is required. Simply “sharing” documents with me is not the same as submitting an assignment.
* Typed assignments must be printed and ready to be handed in/presented at the beginning of class, the day they are due. Do not wait to print an assignment in the library the day it is due. If you are late to class as a result of this, the assignment is also considered late.
* **Late work:** Punctuality and responsibility are important in every class. There is a 10% point deduction per day (percentage may increase for larger assignments) up to 5 days and then the assignment is no longer accepted. If your name is not on the assignment, I cannot grade it and it is considered late. You will receive a point deduction as a result. Deductions for late assignments will take place every school day (Monday-Friday) that the assignment is not turned in (electronically or otherwise). If the assignment is due at 11:59 PM and it is turned in at 12:01 AM, that assignment is considered late. This expectation is to help you to familiarize yourself with the standards that are expected as an upperclassman and at the post-secondary level.

\*I understand that there are sometimes extenuating circumstances and if that is the case, please be sure to communicate your situation with me in the form of an email or conversation so that we can make adequate arrangements.\*

**Plagiarism:** There is a zero-tolerance policy outlined in the student handbook when it comes to plagiarism. If you do not cite research correctly, you could be plagiarising. Please ask questions and make sure you are following MLA8 citation guidelines. If plagiarism occurs, the assignment is graded as zero and cannot be made up.

**Preparedness**

**Students should come to class prepared which may include the following:**

Having their laptops charged and ready for class

Having a notebook and writing utensil

Having previous class notes available

Having completed assigned reading or other assignments

Having required textbooks and any other pertinent handouts etc.

**Classroom Etiquette**

**Students should demonstrate classroom etiquette which may include the following:**

Listening when others are speaking

Speaking at appropriate times

Respecting the opinions of others

Respecting the classroom property and environment

Using technology for educational purposes and with permission

Following classroom routines and procedures such as signing out, signing in, etc.

**Engagement**

**Students should be engaged in class which may be demonstrated in the following ways:**

Being attentive to instruction and classroom discussion

Asking appropriate questions at the appropriate time

Keeping phones off and away unless being used for classroom purposes

Seeking to make text-to-self, text-to-text, and text-to-world connections

Taking ownership of and responsibility for one’s own learning and personal growth

**The following is a list of policies and expectations for this class to ensure that we all have a successful year. Please read each bullet carefully!**

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* Be prepared when you enter the classroom. This means that you must have something to write with, your notebook, homework, books, a school-provided laptop etc.
* Please make sure that you are following all district and state COVID-19 protocols. Inability to do so may result in disciplinary action.
* If you must leave the classroom during class (bathroom, drink, etc.) please sign out on the clipboard at the desk by the door.
* All typed assignments must be submitted on Google Classroom and Turnitin before the start of class on the day that they are due (unless told otherwise).
* If you are absent, please check Google Classroom and ask me clarifying questions. You have two days for each day you are absent in order to make up missed work. While I’ll try to touch base with you in class, please take the initiative to approach me.
	+ If you are quarantined, the absent makeup work policy may change, please be sure to reach out to me ASAP when out for this reason so we may come up with a work plan to keep you current in the class.
* Cell phones are not allowed in class. All electronic work must be done on your laptop. Otherwise, they must either be out of sight or in the cell phone pockets. If I see your phone out at an inappropriate time in class:
	+ First time: Warning
	+ Second time: Placed on the desk and there until the end of class. Email home.
	+ Third time: It goes to the office.
* Avoid plagiarism. Your work will be subject to electronic verification to be sure it is in fact yours. If you plagiarize, you will fail the assignment and be subject to disciplinary action.
* Follow the Acceptable Use Policy whenever we use computers or the Media Center. Refer to your agenda for a detailed description of this policy.
* Make an appointment with me if you would like to stay after school for extra help or if you would like to discuss anything that may affect your work or success in class. You must make an appointment with me the day before you decide to stay after.

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I have reviewed the syllabus and expectations for Mrs. Pietrowicz’s English III CP, and I agree to these guidelines.

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

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