Ms. Katy Maples

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**English 11 Classroom Standards & Course Description**

**Materials:**

Due to the fast-paced nature of the block schedule it is imperative that students come prepared to work every day. In order for students to be successful in this course students are expected to **bring the following items with them to class each day:**

* Loose-leaf binder paper
* A folder, used only for English 11 paperwork (with all needed paperwork inside)
* a black pen, a blue pen, and a red pen
* a pencil
* Sticky notes (3 inch x 3 inch)
* a pink highlighter and a yellow highlighter (green or blue highlighter is optional)
* index cards (100)

**At home, or wherever you will complete your homework, you should have the following to ensure success in this class:**

* Dictionary (or an app on your phone!)
* Computer access: many assignments will require typing. Please be aware that if you do have computer access at home you will need to make arrangements to use school computers on a regular basis (e.g. the library computer lab)
* A comfortable, well-lit and quiet place to read and complete your assignments (hint: listening to classical music on your ipod or phone can help mask outside noise and help you focus).

You can plan on approximately 30 minutes of “homework” every night Monday through Thursday. It is the student’s responsibility to plan accordingly. At times, homework may exceed 30 minutes, and at other times, homework may take less than 30 minutes. Students should plan accordingly to make sure they have enough time to complete all homework assignments.

Plan to complete reading/annotations at home on a daily basis. Do not get behind on your reading, or you will not be able to participate in class activities and will lose further points.

Tests, quizzes, projects and essays are given at regular intervals through the course. Students will receive 1 major assignment oops pass for each semester of the term that allows them to turn in an essay or project one day late without penalty. Students will also receive 4 bathroom passes for each semester of the term. Passes that are not used will earn extra credit.

**Grading Policy:** All grades are accessible online through AERIES. The grading scale is as follows:

100%-90%: A

89%-80%: B

79%-70%: C

69%-60%: D

< 59%: F

**Be aware that in order to receive the college prep designation on your transcripts you must have at least a 70% in the class.**

All grades will be weighted as follows:

Classwork/ Homework/ projects 40%

Tests/ quizzes/ performance tasks 30%

Essays 30%

**Units of study will follow the Common Core Standards and course of study created by the English Department at RCHS. We will complete StudySync (McGraw Hill) units and units around novels/ plays (pacing subject to change):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Unit** |
| 1-4 | Study Sync Unit 1: We the People |
| 5-6 | *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller |
| 7-10 | Study Sync Unit 2: The Individual  |
| 11 | *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry |
| 12-14 | Study Sync Unit 3: Modern Times |
| 15-17 | *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald |
| 18 | Finals |

* Students will also compose no fewer than three formal essays, typed in MLA format. In addition, students will study Greek and Latin roots, suffixes/ prefixes, and grammar/ usage during their time in this class.

**Tardy & Absence Policy:**

The Tardy and Absence policy follows the policies enforced by River City High School administration. Any student more than **30** minutes late will be considered absent.

Any **unexcused absence/ tardy** will result in student forfeiting the right to make-up missed work and/or take any missed tests. **Parents/guardians must call to excuse all student absences and tardies.**

**Late Work Policy:**

Students are responsible for obtaining all missed work when absent for excused reasons. **Students should check the class make-up work folder to obtain handouts and read the class agenda and objectives for days missed.** Students can also check Ms. Maples’ School Loop page to download electronic copies of work missed (URL: <http://rivercity-wusd-ca.schoolloop.com/maples>). **Ms. Maples has also created an Instagram account (maples\_eng11)** on which the class agenda, homework and objective will be posted daily. Students should also check in with the teacher before or after class for further explanation of lessons/work missed. **Students will be given one additional day to complete missing work for each excused absence (such as illness).**

**In most cases, late work will only be accepted for one additional day after the original due date.** Assignments turned in late (except for excused absences) will lose up to 50% of the original point value. Students must make arrangements with the teacher to make-up tests and quizzes. Class time may not be used for make-ups. Incomplete or poorly completed assignments will receive fewer points at the teacher’s discretion. Speak with teacher if special circumstances occur.

**Plagiarism/Cheating:**

Students are expected, and will be held to the standard that they do their own work. Cheating will not be tolerated under any circumstances. **Cheating includes copying another student’s work. Both the study who copied and the student who allowed the other student to copy their work will be penalized.**

* 1st Offense: F on the assignment, parent notification
* 2nd Offense: F on the assignment, parent notification, referral to administration.
* 3rd Offense: F in class for that quarter, parent/student/teacher/administrator conference, and removal from all extra-curricular activities.

**In addition to submitting a paper copy of essays, student must also upload their essay to the turnitin.com website. This essay checks for plagiarism. If an essay is not submitted to turnitin.com, it will not be graded until student has done so.**

**Discipline Policy**:

Refer to the student agenda regarding behavior guidelines, cell phones, non-allowed items, and student dress code.

* Students are expected to respect themselves, other students, the teacher, and the classroom and its contents at all times.
* Cell phones and non-allowed items must be kept turned off and out of sight (unless given special permission for use by Ms. Maples for educational purposes). Any student found with a cell phone or non-allowed item out of his/her backpack without permission will have it confiscated and the teacher will follow school policy regarding discipline.
* Inappropriate behavior includes, but is not limited to, talking out of turn, sleeping, talking back to and/or arguing with the teacher, disrespectful behavior towards other students or teacher, profanity and/or derogatory language, inappropriate use or abuse of classroom materials, and inappropriate use of classroom time.

Consequences for inappropriate behavior may include:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * verbal warning
 | * Call home
 |
| * change of seat
* referral
 | * After school detention
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|  |  |

The consequence depends on type of behavior and frequency of occurrence.

The teacher reserves the right to alter the consequence policy when necessary.

**School Loop:** Ms. Maples’ school loop page is a valuable resource for the class. The syllabus, helpful documents and links, and all assignments will be posted on her English 11 page. Also, any electronic worksheets or documents can be accessed here. Use this resource to your advantage!

**Instagram:** You may follow the class Instagram account @maples\_eng11 to view pictures of the daily agenda, objectives and homework, as well as any other useful information or reminders. Let’s use social media for an educational purpose!

**Students:** please review the classroom standards and course description with your parent/guardian. Next, please fill out the student information sheet attached and have your parent/guardian complete the back of the form addressed to them. **Please return the student information sheet with your parent/guardian signature and information tomorrow.**

Thank you in advance for your hard work and cooperation. I’m looking forward to a wonderful term.

Ms. Maples