

English 11 Course Overview

Welcome to English 11! This course will cover a variety of studies in English such as short stories, poetry, novel study, and drama. This overview aims to explain a bit more about what you'll be learning in the semester, as well as expectations for your work and behaviour throughout the course.

Course Expectations

Being that you are now in grade 11, you should have learned a number of useful skills in your previous English courses. Here are the following expectations of this class:

- **Come to class on a regular basis and on time with any necessary materials.**
 - **Be respectful of the people and materials in the classroom.** Your teacher will make every effort to promote a safe learning environment.
 - **Use your class time wisely** → you will be given time to complete work during the block as long as you use the time given to you. Failure to use class time wisely may result in extra work for you.
 - **Your phone must be on silent and in your bag unless instructed to use it.** Failure to follow this expectation will result in confiscation of your phone by your teacher or by an administrator.
 - **Communicate with your teacher** about needing help, absences, extensions, and arranging alternate dates or make up work *on your own and in a timely manner*.
 - If you know that you will be away, tell me as soon as possible and check my teacher blog for any missed work before emailing to ask what you missed.
 - If you are ill and miss class, let me know as soon as possible and bring in a note from a parent or doctor the next time I see you. Without the note, you will not have a chance to make up any work that you may have missed.
 - Do your own work. **Any form of plagiarism or cheating will not be tolerated and you will automatically earn a 0.** If you are unsure of your work, ask for help.
 - **Participate to the best of your ability.** You will be given a variety of ways to participate and therefore have no reason not to do so.
 - **"I didn't know" is the worst excuse you can use in this course.** Ultimately, you are responsible for your own education. If you are unsure about something, just ask. Refer to the class blog if you need due dates or missed handouts, or email your teacher if you're still unclear.
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Course Overview

This is a *tentative* overview of English 11 and will likely change depending on what materials are available to us. However, you will eventually get through each unit. All units will contain one large inquiry question for us to explore as we study the work and materials.

⇒ Short Stories

Inquiry question: How do families shape the lives of individuals?

Guiding questions:

- What part do morals and culture play in the decisions that we make?
- Is it possible for us to balance what others expect of us with what we want?

⇒ Novel Study: Literature Circles

Inquiry question: To what lengths will an individual go in order to survive?

Guiding questions:

- What is the purpose of dystopian literature?
- Do people favour promoting peace or exercising power?
- How does fear affect the way an individual thinks and acts?

⇒ **Poetry**

Inquiry question: How can poetry affect our senses?

Guiding questions:

- How do poets from different eras and backgrounds express similar concepts?
- What makes a poem's message effective?
- To what degree can an individual feel the sincerity of a poet's words?

⇒ **Drama**

Inquiry question: What makes literature a classic?

Guiding questions:

- How far are humans willing to go to gain or secure power?
- Is human nature inherently good or evil?
- In what ways does power corrupt?

Mark breakdown

This is tentative as well, but the categories themselves will not change:

- Reading and writing 45%
- Assignments 20%
- Speaking and listening 15%
- Quizzes 15%
- Homework, participation, and readiness 5%

Check for homework and any missed handouts (will be in PDF form) here:

<https://msstham.weebly.com/>

Email: sasha.tham@burnabyschools.ca

My email is also on Burnaby Central's Staff Directory Page.

I read and reply to emails during school hours.