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**English IV Syllabus Room: B-8**

**North Dorchester High School**

**Mrs. Lisa Rank mrsranksenglishandtheaterclass.weebly.com**

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**Course Description:**

This twelfth grade course is the fourth in a series designed to extend reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. It addresses the Maryland Common Core Curriculum Frameworks for English and equips students to meet the demands of most postsecondary careers and educational opportunities. Students who succeed in this course meet the minimum objectives for college entrance. Learning activities include preparation for the SAT, writing essays, reading and analyzing literary selections, and producing a research paper on a self-selected topic.

**Course Requirements:**

There will be extensive reading and writing assignments for you to complete on time. This is your last high school English class, my expectations are high. I expect you to make mature decisions and develop a positive work ethic to be successful. This course will be heavily based on comprehending and responding to British literature from the 400s to the present. You will be required to respond both verbally and in writing in individual and group settings. It is imperative that you take the time to closely read all assigned materials. By completing the reading, you will be able to fully participate in all classroom activities and should have no trouble gaining valuable information from the material. Parents and students should expect daily homework assignments that include reading and/or writing. If you are absent from class, you are not excused from the assignment or tests (please follow the DCPS policy on make-up work and excused and unexcused absences). It is your responsibility to make up your assignments and schedule times to discuss them with Mrs. Rank.

**Textbooks and Resources:**

Holt McDougal Literature British Literature­­

**Required Materials:**

Folder

Highlighters

Pencil or pen (blue or black ink only)

Notebook paper

Post-Its

**Mrs. Rank would be infinitely grateful for donations of boxes of tissues and paper towels.**

**Grading Policy**

All assignments will be graded using a point system. As per the county policy, all classwork and homework grades are 30% of the overall final grade. Tests, quizzes, major projects, and essays are 70% of the overall final grade. Please refer to the County Calendar and your agenda for the full explanation of the grading policy.

**Guidelines for Success**

* You are not to stand in the hall before class.  As you enter the classroom, sharpen pencils, grab needed materials, sit in your assigned seats, and begin warm-up before the bell rings.
* Attend class every day, and do not be late.
* Work hard on your daily assignments and meet all deadlines.
* In the event that you have an excused absence, please check the make-up work folder/binder. Please schedule a time outside of class if you need further assistance.
* Please be organized! I will provide a two pocket classroom folder for you. All submitted classwork must be placed in the folder. Please be gentle with the folder; it has to last the entire year.
* Raise your hand to be recognized and called upon by the teacher.  There is to be no talking or getting out of your assigned seat unless Mrs. Rank grants you permission.
* Be prepared for class everyday with all required materials.
* Be silent and respectful during announcements.
* Do not touch things in the classroom that are not yours – let’s be respectful of each other’s belongings.
* No food, drinks, toys, cell phones, CD/DVD players, iPods, and/or electronic devices are to be brought to class.
* Cheating will not be tolerated.  If you find it necessary to cheat, appropriate action will be taken.
* Profanity is not to be used in school.  If you choose to speak in this manner, you will be referred to the office.
* If a substitute leaves your name for misbehaving and/or causing a disturbance, appropriate action will be taken.

**Consequences**

If for some reason you break one of the above stated guidelines, the following actions will be taken:

* **First offense**:  student conference, phone call home, or letter sent home
* **Second offense**:  phone call home and 1/2-hour after-school detention
* **Third offense**:  phone call home, 1/2-hour after-school detention, and office referral
* **Fourth offense**:  phone call home, 1-hour after-school detention, parent conference, and office referral

**Homework…**

Must be completed! Homework is very important; it allows me to see how you are doing and determine whether or not we need to look at something a little more closely. Students will be assigned a textbook. They will need to bring this book daily to class. The book should be covered.

**Writing Format**

For all paper assignments, unless otherwise noted, you will need to use this heading:

* Name, date, and assignment must be written or typed in the upper LEFT hand corner.
* Paragraphs must be indented.
* All writing assignments must be edited for spelling and other corrections before they are turned into Mrs. Rank.
* All writing assignments that are handwritten should be legible and written in blue or black ink.

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 I have read all of the information stated on Mrs. Rank’s English IV Syllabus.  I understand that the guidelines and policies must be followed in order to achieve a positive classroom learning climate that will bring success to my classmates and me.  By following **North Dorchester High School’s** philosophy of being respectful, responsible, and ready, I can expect to be successful in this class.  Failure to abide by classroom rules will result in the consequences as specified in this document.  If I ever need extra help or have questions, it is my responsibility to ask Mrs. Rank at appropriate times.

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

North Dorchester Learner Commitment: *We are the North Dorchester Eagles. We are becoming college, career, and community ready by demonstrating integrity, honor, and ethics through our voices and our choices.*