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Short Story



Introduction/Overview

Short Story is a thematic approach to the study of the short story genre and storytelling. Students will read, view, and tell a diverse selection of stories representing the rich history of cultures, time periods, and perspectives. Elements of plot, character, setting, and conflict will be examined as students gain exposure to the works of many authors and a wide variety of writing and film-making styles. Students will build analytical skill through written work as well as discussion.

Course Outline

- Students will read 25 – 30 short stories organized around several themes such as the following: horror/suspense, teen, and non-fiction.
- The course includes several films and film clips from important stories, which will be used to compare/contrast with literature read in class.
- Students will collect and complete summaries of each story, its impact of the genre, and its comment on society.

Class Expectations

1. In order to begin class on time, students need to be in their seats with materials, ready to start. Students should not get out of their seats during instructional or work time.
2. Students are responsible for keeping their worksheets and notes in order.
3. Daily and diligent in-class reading of the short stories is expected.
4. Participation in large and small group discussions is required.
5. Students will complete all outside of class assignments.
6. Students will be **RESPECTFUL** of self, of others, and of property. Everyone has the right to be treated respectfully, and everyone has the right to teach/learn without interruption. Furthermore, only **ONE** person speaks at a time, and we will all **LISTEN** when someone speaks.
7. Students will follow the rules advocated by the school.
8. Students will keep the room and its property clean.

Objectives

Purposeful Thinkers

- Students will be active learners through large/small group discussions of literature.
- Students will critically study styles and approaches of the authors who have used short story as a medium for their views on life.
- Students will examine their own lives as they reflect on the characters in the literature.

Effective Communicators

& Self-Directed Learners

- Students will share their work and ideas with one another.
- Students will use the literature as a tool to improve their own writing and vocabulary skills.

Responsible Citizens

- Students will collaborate in their reading and analysis of the literature.
- Students will use the literature to reflect and learn about important periods and events in American history.
- Students will use the literature to generate observations and discussions of our current society.

Class Procedures & Guidelines

Tardy Policy and Absences

Three tardies to class=contact with parents. Excessive tardies will result in a referral to the office. If you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to find out what you missed and get your make-up work in by the time set by the teacher. Please take care of this as soon as you return to school.

Pass Policy

Passes should only be used in the case of an emergency. Please take care of your needs between classes as much as possible.

Handing in Work

In order to receive a passing grade, students must turn in all required work. If you are handing in work at a time other than when it is collected, you must put it in the late-work basket. **To put work anywhere else is to risk losing it, which means that you are responsible if it is lost!**

Late work

Attendance is important. Some daily work cannot be made up. In the event of an absence, the student will receive the same number of school days they were absent to complete missing work with no penalty. All other late work will receive a significantly lower grade. Still, a late grade is better than no grade at all. **TURN IN YOUR WORK!!!** Be sure to talk to me about special circumstances surrounding a late assignment.

Help

Students are encouraged to seek help outside of class time. If you cannot find me before or after school, make an appointment with me during class.

Academic Integrity

Honesty is very important. Dishonesty, including copying another student's work, talking or using notes during a quiz or test (unless allowed), or any other behavior that leads to a false representation of effort, will result in serious consequences. **DO YOUR OWN WORK AND DO IT WELL - BE PROUD OF YOUR EFFORT!**

Assessment

Daily assignments & Participation	35%
Tests on materials covered & Final	35%
Papers & Projects	30%

Grading

Grading will be based on the following percentages:

A	94-99	B	84-86	C	74-76	D	64-66
A-	90-93	B-	80-83	C-	70-73	D-	60-63
B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69		