**Language Arts**

**Open Disclosure Statement**

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Ms. Fawcett’s Goals for Each Student

* Learn to love the beauty, depth and power of language and literature.
* Face your fears and weaknesses and work to overcome and strengthen them.
* Accept responsibility for your choices. Choose to work hard, be efficient, and be accountable for your own learning, good grades will follow.
* Experience the depth of learning. Become engaged, don’t just do assignments; see the growth and meaning they can bring to you.

**Course Objectives**

Students Will:

1. Experience the connected disciplines of reading, writing, speaking and listening in a holistic way.
2. Practice the writing process and write a variety of formal and informal pieces.
3. Read a variety of selections from literature understanding their importance in personal, historical , and literary contexts
4. To experience the connected disciplines of reading, writing, speaking, and listening in a holistic way
5. To practice writing as a process, writing formal and informal pieces.
6. To read a variety of selections from literature, understanding their importance in personal, historical and literary contexts, as well as learning the skills and vocabulary necessary to study them in depth.
7. To become a creative, complex thinker and problem solver.
8. To work towards consistently producing high quality products.
9. To learn to understand, respect, and interact with people of different cultures, generations, and race.
10. Research methods and preparation of academic papers.
11. Participate in class. Work in cooperation with peers and in reading and writing response groups

**Student Requirements**

1. Attend class regularly and arrive on time. If you are going to be absent email me and get the assignments for the day because you will still be expected to turn them in on time.
2. Come prepared to class with pencil, paper, and homework. Be prepared to participate in class discussions and activities.
3. Complete assignments on time.
4. Behave in a manner that is befitting ladies and gentlemen. As long as you are not interfering with your own ability to learn, your classmates’ ability to learn, or my ability to teach, it is pretty safe to assume that your behavior is acceptable.

**COURSE MATERIALS:**

* William Shakespeare
* *Novel:*

***Grading Procedures:***

1. *Students will earn points for participation, assignments, quizzes, tests, projects, presentations, etc. The grading scale is as follows:*

**A** =93-100% **B-** =80-82% **D+=**66-69%

**A-** =90-92% **C+=**76-79% **D** =63-65%

**B+**=86-89% **C** =73-75% **D-** =60-62%

**B** =83-85% **C**- =70-72% **F** =59% or less

1. **Any plagiarism or cheating** of any kind will result in an automatic “0” with no make-up possible.
2. **There is absolutely no talking during any quiz or test**. Until every student has turned in the quiz/test there is no talking even if some students have finished. Talking during a quiz/test will result in a “0” with no make-up possible. If students have questions they may raise their hands and wait for me to come over to help or come and speak with me privately at my desk.
3. **Students and parents may access grades through PowerSchool**. I update this at least twice a week. Please make a habit of checking scores frequently. If you see something that concerns you please feel free to contact me. I am always pleased to hear from you!
4. **Unexcused absences:** *No make-up work allowed.*
5. **Late work: *All late work will be accepted for half credit*** (may not receive higher than 50%) and must be turned in one week before the end of the grading period. Students are responsible for getting their own make up work which they will find in the class basket.
6. **Make-up/Re-take exams:** Must be taken within one week following the absence after school or during lunch (for excused absences only).

**Participation Points**

1. Attendance is important because being present exposes you to various forms of learning that are not necessarily available outside the classroom. Students who are present and on time will earn 10 participation points per day. However, students who are absent due to school activities will not be affected. Students who arrive late to class will warn 5 points per day because they’ve missed part of their ability to participate and interrupted the class.
2. If any student must be removed from the classroom due to unacceptable behavior, he/she will lose all participation points for that day. The late work policy is still enforced for these students.
3. Students who leave class early without permission will be marked absent and lose points.

Classroom Behavior

I expect all students to try their best and to come to class prepared to learn: This entails both mentally and physically. I expect students to behave with respect, self-control, and maturity. Students who shout out, make inappropriate comments, disrespect others in the classroom, refuse to comply with state, district, and school rules, or have other disruptive or inappropriate behavior will not be allowed to impede the education and success of other students. I will not hesitate to refer students to campus security or administration.

**Forbidden Items:**

Cell phones and iPods are absolutely prohibited. If I see them they are subject to be confiscated.