



South Windsor High School
 161 Nevers Road
 South Windsor, CT 06074
 (860) 648-5000
 website: www.southwindsorschools.org/highschool

2023 - 2024 COURSE EXPECTATIONS

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| Course Name: | First Year English - Honors |
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| Teacher Name(s) | Email | Phone |
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| Mr. Michael Gilroy (Rm 143) | mgilroy@swindsor.k12.ct.us | 860-474-1857 |
| Ms. Terri White (Rm 144) | twhite@swindsor.k12.ct.us | 860-474-1847 |

Course Overview: This course explores the question “Who am I?” and examines the subtleties and layers that create identity. Students evaluate what forces (childhood, heritage, nature or nurture, conformity/ non-conformity, place, time, education, ethics) have shaped their unique perspectives. Several genres of texts are analyzed, including novels, short stories, poems, plays, and film. Students question, interpret, and make judgments about texts, thereby expanding their own empowerment. They write in multiple genres, and use writing as both a way to learn and as a means of expression. Students will practice critical literacy and collaboration skills as learning and engagement strategies for both reading and writing. Over the course of the school year, students will read and view challenging content that will warrant serious conversation about a variety of issues. This course meets students where they are and helps them to both grow and thrive as learners.

Vision of the Successful Student And Core Competencies:
 A successful student in this course will...

- use a variety of reading strategies to respond and interpret texts.
- write in a wide variety of genres; experience different writing processes; and use a variety of writing techniques.
- challenge the attitudes, values, and beliefs that lie beneath the surface of a text (critical literacy)
- consider the purpose for the text and its writer, hold multiple interpretations to a single text.
- value the ideas of others, share ideas in class discussions, and develop skills as a peer responder.

Materials and Resources to Support Student Learning: Novels, poems, plays, non-fiction texts, and handouts will be distributed in class. Students will be expected to bring notebooks, pens or pencils, a charged chromebook, and any other required materials to class on a daily basis. In addition to assigned classroom texts, please visit your teacher’s Google Classroom for useful information and links that support student learning.

| Evidence of Student Learning: | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|---|
| Assessments | 80% | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Used to assess mastery and learning of taught standards and skills ● Can be administered at various points throughout a unit or as a long term project to assess learning of essential targets. ● Assessments of learning may include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Performance tasks ○ Quizzes or Tests ○ Presentations or speeches ○ Student products including: websites, podcasts, slideshows, etc. ○ Writing tasks ○ Essays ○ Research tasks ○ Source analysis |
| Learner Tasks | 20% | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Used to provide feedback related to growth and progress towards taught standards and skills. ● Can be administered at various points throughout a unit. ● Learner tasks may include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reflections and learning logs ○ Homework ○ Class notebooks ○ Response to feedback ○ Other class specific tasks |

Late Work/ Retake Policy: A late work policy will be determined and communicated by the classroom teacher. Students will be given certain opportunities to retake assessments/assignments. Teachers will provide more specific instruction for each class.

Cell Phone / Personal Technology Policy: The English Department policy prohibits cell phone use during class. Teachers will provide more specific instruction for each class.

- Cell phones and earbuds are put away
- 15 minute teacher detention for non-compliance
- Repeated offenses will result in disciplinary action by administration

Please refer to *Bobcat Handbook* for Academic Integrity violations.