



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

2023 - 2024 COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Course Name:	Literature and Popular Culture
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Teacher Name(s)	Email	Phone
Mr. Michael Webb (rm 147)	mwebb@apps.southwindsorschools.org	860-474-1863
Ms. Carmela Dahms-Lodge (rm 126)	cdahms@swindsor.k12.ct.us	860-474-1463
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Course Overview: In this course, students will investigate what defines popular culture through analysis of literary narratives and contemporary media. Students will study a variety of texts exploring past and present politics, literature, music, film, and sports. Examining popular culture provides a lens to understand diverse perspectives, and allows us to consider the values and experiences of humans around the United States.

Vision of the Successful Student And Core Competencies:

- Successful students will read and prepare outside of class several days a week.
- Demonstrate respect, responsibility, self-advocacy, open-mindedness, and intellectual curiosity.
- Work at a high level of independence and scholarship, which requires abstract thinking.
- Demonstrate a general understanding of concepts used in literature, sociology and popular culture.
- Show critical analysis of popular culture texts.
- Explain and discuss how the intersections of race, class and gender are represented and maintained in popular culture texts.
- Demonstrate a general understanding of the dominant representations and identity constructions of people in historical and contemporary analyses of US popular culture

Possible novels/ excerpts include but are not limited to: *The AutoBiography of Malcolm X*, *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Looking For Alaska*, and others. Parents are encouraged to peruse the assigned novels and contact the teacher with any concerns.

Materials and Resources to Support Student Learning:
 Students will be given novels, poems, non-fiction texts, as well as handouts. Students will be expected to bring chromebooks, texts and any other required materials to class on a daily basis. In addition to assigned classroom texts, Google Classroom will provide useful links that support students' learning. Parents are encouraged to peruse the assigned novels and contact the teacher if you have any concerns.

Chromebooks
 Technology is integral to this course as most of the resources and assignments will be accessed via the district provided Chromebook. Failure to bring charged Chromebook to class may result in a reduction of classwork grade or a zero for the assignment. Due to the provided Chromebooks, students will not be permitted to use cell phones in class.

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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.