

Welcome to Composition and Literature IV seniors!! In this class we will continue mastering the established Arizona standards in Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening, and Language. Course work will be generated with the intention of increasing the skills and understanding of students in preparation for further education and employment value/experience.

Texts Covered

In this course readings may include, but are not limited to:

- *Beowulf*
- *Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer
- *Lanval* by Marie de France
- *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare
- *Paradise Lost* by John Milton
- *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley
- *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde
- *Pygmalion* by George Bernard Shaw
- *1984* by George Orwell

[The majority of these texts are available through the textbook provided by the school or scans provided on the Google classroom setup. The only required texts to be purchased are specified below.

- *Frankenstein, Dracula, and Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde with Introduction by Stephen King* ISBN: 9780451523631
- *1984* by George Orwell ISBN: 9780451524935

Students are required to provide the following materials for the class:

- 1 college ruled composition notebook, required for daily bellwork
- 1 (2-3 in.) 3-ring binder, large enough for handouts and assignments per semester
- Reliable writing implements:
 - graphite pencils
 - **and/or** -
 - blue or black ink pens only (other colors will not be accepted on work for credit)
 - highlighters for student note taking (recommended)
- Adequate paper and/or notebook for note taking and completing assigned work
- Assigned texts that are not already made available in the classroom environment; advanced notice will be provided for these materials later in the school year

Course Objectives:

- ✓ Students will produce work and demonstrate skills, individually and in small groups, on level with the Arizona state standards for seniors
- ✓ Students will improve their academic writing throughout the year with short & long writing assignments, both as timed in-class and take-home work
- ✓ Students will improve their cultural-literary exposure by studying a variety of genres and formats, including but not limited to
 - Sonnet poetry
 - Ode poetry
 - Epic poetry
 - Science fiction prose
 - Fantasy fiction prose
 - Tragic drama
- ✓ Students will improve their literacy skills and exposure through reading a variety of fictional and non-fictional texts
- ✓ Students will continue to develop and improve digital literacy and competency through in-class and take-home assignments
- ✓ Students will improve their academic vocabulary with terms appropriate to understanding fiction and non-fiction texts and generating arguments regarding said texts
- ✓ Students will begin to trace the hero archetype from older literary periods to the contemporary
- ✓ Students will compare literature from different literary periods and across mediums/interpretations

Class Rules:

1. Be on time.
2. Respect yourself and others.
3. Be prepared.
4. Do your best work.
5. Maintain an environment for learning.
6. Keep a positive attitude.
7. Take responsibility.
8. Dress appropriately.
9. Use your time wisely.

Class Rule 1, subsection 1 — Tardiness

(See 2020-2021 North Pointe Student Handbook, 12).

*There is limited time to complete all assignments in the class. *Ipsso facto*, if you're late you are losing precious instruction/execution time that will be hard to recover. *

Class Rule 1, subsection 2 — Attendance

(See 2020-2021 North Pointe Student Handbook, 11-12).

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class period, whether students are physically in class or are participating online. It is the student's responsibility to acknowledge their presence when asked **AND** communicate any issues interacting with the class immediately to the teacher for accurate attendance.

Class Rule 2, subsection 1 — Subjectivity and Objectivity

Due to the nature of the class, peer input will be necessary from time to time on student compositions. While constructive criticism is expected, negative comments regarding a student's work will not be tolerated. Repeat offenders will fail the assignment and further discipline may be enacted.

Class Rule 3, subsection 1 — Homework

(See 2020-2021 North Pointe Student Handbook, 14)

*In short, if this means listening to an audio book while working out or commuting to and from school to accomplish reading, do it. If this means putting off conquering the next level or posting that next selfie to study/review key terms, vocabulary, & themes of a text, do it. If it means abstaining from the fancy Starbucks/Dutch/other treats to have enough money to buy the correct book or refill the ink toner in your computer, do it. I am asking y'all to be responsible regarding homework.

Class Rule 4, subsection 1 — Plagiarism/Cheating

"Students are expected to work independently on tests, homework, and all other assignments unless otherwise specified by the teacher. Plagiarism, cheating, sharing of answers, informing about the content, or copying will not be tolerated. Students who are aware of the above activities have the responsibility to report the violation to a faculty member or the administration." (2020-2021 North Pointe Student Handbook, 20)

First offense will result in automatic loss of credit on the assignment, with no further opportunity provided to make up the failed work. Further attempts at plagiarism and/or cheating will result in further work dismissal and appropriate disciplinary action.

Class Rule 5, subsection 1 — Cellphones and other electronic devices

"Unless approved by administration, personal electronic devices (cell phones, iPods/iPads/tablets, mp3 players, etc.) may not be used during class time, and are to be stored in silent mode. Additionally, ear plugs/earphones, etc. may not be worn or used during class time. ... A violation of the electronic

device policy will result in the device being confiscated and will be treated as a disciplinary matter" (*North Pointe Student Handbook*, 6).

**In short, there is NO need for students to be on their phones during instructional time.* *

Class Rule 5, subsection 2 -- Free Choice Reading Material

Students are expected to have a "free choice" book to read at school. Students are expected to choose reading materials that are consistent with his/her family's value and do not violate general or specific aspects of the Student Handbook (including Conduct Code). It is the child's responsibility to gain permission from his/her parent regarding reading choices. (2020-2021 *North Pointe Student Handbook*, 17)

Class Rule 7, subsection 1 — Grading

It is ultimately the student's responsibility to maintain/improve their grade, though parents are also encouraged to monitor their student's progress (see 2020-2021 *North Pointe Student Handbook*, 14). The teacher will maintain the priority of grading and returning work in a timely manner. Progress reports will also be sent out on the 3rd, 5th, 7th, & 8th week of every quarter (*note: the teacher reserves the right to adjust this presented schedule at any given time*).

Quarter grades will be calculated based on: bellwork (or its equivalent), in-class & homework assignments, unit quizzes, essays with accompanying writing worksheets, and of course, class participation. Semester grades will be calculated from the two quarter scores; additionally, there will be a cumulative, semester final which will comprise 10% of the aggregate score. Students will be made aware of all testing days at the earliest possible time to allow for proper preparation.

*Student work turned in without a name will not be given any credit, and this includes online submissions. This is a fundamental aspect for all work and is not the teacher's responsibility to identify the work based upon a student's handwriting, level of work, the color of ink used, or any other such manner other than the standard prescribed method. No excuses! *

Class Rule 7, subsection 2 — Missed Assignments

(See 2020-2021 *North Pointe Student Handbook*, 16)

*It is the practice of this teacher to put in a 0 for all missing work. Any excused absence will still be accepted for full credit, provided it meets the above criteria, and the grade will be adjusted upon the receipt and grading of said work. *

Class Rule 7, subsection 3 — Late Assignments

As a general rule, assignments will be considered late if they are not turned in by the beginning of the class period in which they are due. Late assignments may be turned in by the end of the same day in which they would have otherwise been accepted for a small reduction in score. Late assignments will be accepted and graded, but will not earn above 50% of the available credit.

* In the event that an extended project coincides with the planned absence (this includes school related activities [2020-2021 *North Pointe Student Handbook*, 16 & 25]) of a student, that student is required to make arrangements to have his/her work turned in on time, or it will be considered late and penalized accordingly. *

Class Rule 7, subsection 4 — Graduation

“Seniors who are not passing classes necessary for graduation *by the end of the first school day in May* will not participate in North Pointe’s Senior Awards Night and Graduation, *even if they are passing the classes on the last day of school.*” (North Pointe Student Handbook, 16-17; emphasis added)

Class Rule 9, subsection 1 — Tutoring

(See 2020-2021 North Pointe Student Handbook, 15)

My available times for tutoring will be on Monday and Wednesday from 2:35-3:30pm. This has proven to be a good time to review any confusions on bellwork, homework, reading, and for personal assistance with writing. We’re here anyway; if any student is having difficulty in class they should make it a priority to meet with the teacher!

Virtual Classroom Expectations

Due to the need to meet virtually through at least the beginning of this school year, the teacher will expect students to conduct themselves as if they were in an actual classroom environment. This means silencing alarms & notifications from electronic devices, limiting all outside distractions, speaking respectfully, listening attentively, dressing appropriately; in short, the virtual classroom—whether a Google Meet/Zoom-like interaction or the Google classroom—is still considered a full classroom with all rules and policies in place.

Academic Friday School

Students who fail a semester core course are required to attend Academic Friday School from 12:15 pm – 3:30 pm the following semester to make up

the credit. Students who fail to attend Academic Friday School are subject to disciplinary action.

Transfer Credit

Once enrolled, North Pointe does not accept course credit from other high school or online instructions.

The instructor reserves the right to adjust and/or modify the syllabus according to the needs of the class. Any other scenarios not explicitly covered in the syllabus will be dealt with according to classroom rules listed above and school policy.

I understand the rules and policies that have been laid out for this class and agree to abide by them.

Student signature (print): _____

Student signature (sign): _____

I understand the rules and policies that have been laid out for this class and agree to assist and encourage my student to abide by said rules and policies and help my student meet or exceed their semester grade goal.

Parent/Guardian signature

(print): _____

Parent/Guardian signature

(sign): _____

Parent/Guardian phone number:

Parent/Guardian email address:
