

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

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson

Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw

1984 by George Orwell

[The majority of these texts are available through the textbook provided by the school. Notification will be sent out in a timely manner for other texts that need to be purchased for class. Should it pose a financial difficulty in securing a copy, please notify the teacher so other arrangements can be discussed. Again, please do not purchase texts until instructed to do so, as the list may change.]

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

- 1 composition notebook, college ruled (required for bellwork, incorrect format will result in point deduction)
- 1 (2-3 in.) 3-ring binder, large enough for handouts and assignments per semester
- Reliable writing implements: graphite pencils, black/blue pens (please no mechanical pencils as they are too prone to breaking and causing a distraction!!)
- Adequate paper and/or notebook for note taking and completing assigned work
- Assigned texts that are not already made available in the classroom environment
- Highlighters, post-it notes, note cards (recommended)

Course Objectives:

- ✓ Produce work and demonstrate skills on level with the Arizona state standards for seniors
- ✓ Students will gain an understanding of the different literary periods of British literature with an emphasis on understanding themes, ideas, and key authors/texts of that period
- ✓ Students will begin to trace the hero archetype from older literary periods to the contemporary
- ✓ 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 literacy skills and exposure through reading a variety of fictional and non-fictional texts
- ✓ Students will improve their academic vocabulary with terms appropriate to understanding fiction and non-fiction texts and generating arguments regarding said texts

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 2019-2020 North Pointe Student Handbook, 13).

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

Class Rule 2, subsection 2 – 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. Repeated offenders will fail the assignment and be removed from the class.

Class Rule 3, subsection 1 – Homework

(See 2019-2020 North Pointe Student Handbook, 15)

*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

“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.” (2019-2020 North Pointe Student Handbook, 21)

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 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).

* Music to work by will be provided by the teacher. If internet access is needed for inspiration, communicate this to the teacher for aid in the matter. Notes should be recorded on paper, not on an electronic device, in the classroom. *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.
(2019-2020 *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. Quarter grades will be calculated based on: bellwork, 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 the testing day at the earliest possible time.

*Student work turned in without a name will not be given any credit. 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, or the color of ink used. No excuses! *

Class Rule 7, subsection 2 – 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 [2019-2020 *North Pointe Student Handbook*, 17 & 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 3 – Missed Assignments

(See 2019-2020 *North Pointe Student Handbook*, 17)

*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 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, 18; emphasis added)

Class Rule 9, subsection 1 – Tutoring

(See 2019-2020 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!

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.

Composition & Literature IV: British Tradition
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J. Clark 2019-2020
Room 521

I understand the rules and policies that have been laid out for this class and agree to abide by them. I furthermore elect the following grade as my semester goal.

Semester Grade Goal (Initial): A_____ B_____ C_____

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 signature (print): _____

Parent signature (sign): _____

Parent email address:
