**English 2201**

**Student Information Sheet**

**2013 - 2014**

Teacher: Ms. Corrina Fahey

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English 2201 is the Grade 11 academic course in high school.

**Textbooks and Timelines:**

Echoes 11 - throughout the year Othello - Shakespearean play

“Oedipus Rex” – in-depth Sophoclean play Fahrenheit 451/The Hobbit - in-depth novel

Night – in-depth novel Independent novel - TBA

**Grading Scheme:**

Writing and Representing Evaluations - 30%

Speaking and Listening Evaluations - 15%

Reading and Viewing Evaluations - 15%

Research Paper - 10%

Final Exam - 30%

**Working Timeline**

September – “Oedipus Rex” December – Prose and Poetry

September/October – Night and Laramie Project January – Fahrenheit 451

October – Visuals/Media January – Final Exam

November – Othello

**Testing/Evaluations:**

You should expect to have an evaluation at the end of each major unit. There will be a reading comprehension quiz given on each novel assigned in this course; this quiz, designed to ensure you have read and understood the work, will be given **prior** to the start of discussions of the work in class. As well, each major grading component will be tested. Most of your evaluations will contain two or more strands and will be calculated separately according to each strand.

**Other Considerations:**

**Placement** – To do well in this course you should have received a grade of at least 55% in 1201 English last year (60% is better). If you really struggled in your 1201 class you may be misplaced in academic English. Please come speak to me as soon as possible about this as changes are incredibly difficult to make as the year goes on.

**Expectations** – Work is assigned at regular intervals throughout the school year. The timelines provided are for the benefit of both you and I – you, so that you do not get overwhelmed with multiple projects in too close a proximity; me, for the same reasons and so that I can fairly evaluate everyone on the same standards. It is expected that you complete your work on time and that it is of a quality befitting a senior high school student. Thus, it is in your best interests to allocate your time to complete this work in an expedient manner and in the timeframe proposed. Note: as we are on a condensed schedule evaluations may occur more frequently.

**Work Ethic** – If you choose to put time and effort into this course you will do well. Take any criticism of your work in the spirit in which it is intended – to help you improve your writing and to identify areas of weakness upon which you will need to focus. If you take the criticism as an indication that “you will never do well in English” then you won’t. If, instead, you look on the criticism as a means to help you do better, then it will. It is all in how you choose to look at it. If there are things that you feel you need extra help with then arrange to see me for some one-on-one assistance.

**Absences** - You **must** provide a note explaining your absence from school. These notes are to be brought to the Main Office where they will be recorded. Notes for legitimate absences may allow for some leniency in completing missed work. Most of the time though, the value of the missed work will be added to major evaluations (your Final exam). Note: try to limit missed class time. As Holy Heart is operating on a semester system, you are essentially missing two classes of work for each class you miss.

**Homework** – This will often simply be the completion of unfinished class work or reading of assigned texts. Remember that you also have the privilege of having a Study Hall that may be used to complete school work.

**Research** - you are required to complete research in this course. Topics for this will be assigned at a later date. Details will be provided as they become available.

**Literature Circles** - We may complete a Literature Circle for one of the independent novels in this course. They are designed to benefit you from your own reading and analysis of the novel as well as that of your fellow group members.

**Assignment Deadlines** – In accordance with the Evaluation Policy of the Avalon East School Board assignments may be accepted **prior to the return** of completed class work. Once the graded assignments have been returned late assignments will no longer be accepted. The value of the missed work will be added to your Final exam. Please note that it is in your best interest to complete all assignments in the time allotted. Traditionally, students get much higher grades on assignments and in-class evaluations than they do on Finals.

**Reading** - you are responsible for two/three novels this year as well as two plays and numerous short works including essays, short stories and poetry amongst others. It is highly recommended that you be reading nightly in order to keep up with this course work. It is further recommended that you bring a novel to class so that in the event there is extra class time available you can make productive use of it. While it is not necessary that the novel brought to class be one of the assigned readings, it is desirable.

**Independent reading responsibilities** - you may be solely responsible for completing one or two novels as well as several shorter works on your own. I may be consulted for questions/concerns about these works though I may not necessarily refer to them in detail in class. Independent reading assignments are designed to encourage you to practice the skills you are learning in the high school English program.

**Terminology** - you are responsible for a considerable number of terms for this English course, so you should be reviewing the terms periodically. A copy of the terms will be given to you in class. I would strongly recommend that you review these definitions to ensure familiarity with them in preparation for class discussions and evaluations.

**Writing** - We will be concentrating on three types of essay writing this year: Argumentation and Persuasion, Cause and Effect, as well as Comparison and Contrast. Last year you should have covered Process Analysis, Example and Illustration, as well as Narration in your 1201 English class. This is in keeping with the informal policy guidelines of the Holy Heart English department. This focus on three different types of writing per year will ensure that over a three year period you will be exposed to each of the seven different types of essay writing at least once. Remember that this is an English course so spelling, grammar, capitalization, punctuation, sentence structure, etcetera will be evaluated.

**School Rules** - School rules concerning issues such as lateness, use of cell phones, IPODs, and others will be enforced. Please ensure that you are familiar with these rules such that you do not inadvertently break them.

**Caveat** - As with any type of long term planning, this is not infallible. Therefore, changes may need to be made to timelines, homework responsibilities, evaluations, and such as we proceed through the year. For example, I may choose to go with only the two required novels for this course. You will be apprized of these changes as they occur.

**Welcome to my class. Working together, it will be a great year. ☺**

***(Please show this handout to your parents/guardians so they are aware of my expectations from you this year. They can feel free to contact me, using the information provided, with any questions or concerns.)***