

Mrs. Duff
Literature Syllabus
2009-2010



Supplies needed

- One inch binder with tabs
- Tab labels: analogies, notes, plot maps, novels, and loose leaf paper
- Red Pen
- Multiple blue/black pens
- Pencils
- Highlighter
- Loose leaf paper
- Index cards
- Scissors
- Markers/Crayons/Colored pencils

General Overview of Curriculum

Concepts

- Analogies
- Plot
- Literary Devices
- Character
- Setting
- Theme
- Poetry
- Literary Criticism
- Reading Informational Text

Novel Studies

- Outsiders
- The Call of the Wild
- Night

Classroom Expectations And Grading

Students are expected to follow the school rules as well as my own classroom rules at all times. Students who are not following rules will receive appropriate consequences including warnings, lunch detentions with Mrs. Duff or the lunch detention supervisor, phone calls home and/or after school detentions.

Students are expected to come to class prepared to learn. This includes bringing a positive attitude, science book, vocabulary cards, binder, notebook paper, writing utensil, and any additional supplies needed for that day. Additional supplies are always listed on a dry erase board outside the classroom.

My grade book is updated at least every 2 weeks. Assignments that are marked as “Missing” are from absences, Everest, band, etc. These assignments will not be late if turned in upon the student’s return to class. Assignments that are marked as “Late” were not completed or not turned in. Assignments that are “Late” and marked with a 0 as their score have not yet been turned in.

Homework Policy

All homework in class will be given for specific educational purposes. Therefore, it is expected that all homework be completed on time. Homework will be graded during the first part of class. Work that is left at home, in the locker, or else where is considered late. Late work will be accepted for a maximum of half credit if turned in the very next day. Students will not be able to go to their locker to retrieve it.

Homework will be posted daily on the board and a list of what was assigned and collected is recorded in a "While You Were Out" binder. Students are expected to record their assignments in their assignment notebooks each night. If a student is absent from class for any reason it is **THEIR** responsibility to get the missing work and turn it in within the number of days that they were absent. It is also the responsibility of the student to turn in any work collected while they were absent. Students will always be informed of upcoming tests in advance. Students that are absent the day of an exam are expected to make up the exam the day they return unless a special circumstances apply.

In the event of academic dishonesty, students will redo the assignment and receive zero credit.

Project Policy

Students will be assigned individual projects and group projects throughout the year. The work will generally be started in school and then completed at home. Students will be given at least one week to complete a major project. **ALL PROJECTS WILL BE GRADED BY USING A RUBRIC GIVEN TO EACH STUDENT WHEN THE PROJECT IS ASSIGNED.** Please ask your child to see the rubric when helping them with projects.

Library Days

My literature classes attend the library once each week on Fridays (Thursdays if there is no school on Friday). Students are expected to have a novel to read silently for 15 minutes or their ID card so that they may check out a novel. Being prepared for a library day with either of these items is often counted as a 5 point assignment. Homework may not be worked on during this time.

Rebecca Caudill Book Report

Students must complete six RC book reports during the year. Two book reports will be completed each trimester with one being due during mid-terms and the other near the end of the trimester. Each book report must be on one of the 2010 Rebecca Caudill Award Nominees. RC Book reports must be 1-3 pages typed and include a summary, analysis, and connection to character counts.

How to Reach Me

I truly believe that open communication between the home and school is the key to all children's success at school. Please don't ever hesitate to contact me with any suggestions, concerns, or questions. The best way to contact me is by e-mail: **kduff@fsd157c.org**