



Language Arts III Mrs. Mazurier

Dear Student and Parents:

Welcome to an exciting new school year at Yorba Linda High School. I look forward to working with you and getting to know you throughout the year.

Literature-Based Learning

Language Arts III is a one-year college-preparatory course in which literature is used as the basis for expanding upon your current skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and

written and oral language conventions. Class assignments and activities will be based on these areas, which encompass the Common Core State Standards for Language Arts (grades 11-12). Students will read, interpret and analyze selections in the genres of nonfiction, short story, drama, poetry, and the novel, as well as be exposed to works that reflect different a) cultural viewpoints and b) historical time periods.

Literature Selections

The literature for Language Arts III was selected to prepare you for literature to be encountered in your senior year and beyond. This year, you can expect to study the following units of literature:

1st Quarter – EARLY AMERICA (Beginnings - 1800)

- The Sacred Earth & the Power of Storytelling
- Life in the New World
- The Road to Independence
- *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller

2nd Quarter – AMERICAN ROMANTICISM (1800 – 1860), THE CIVIL WAR ERA (1850 – 1880) & REGIONALISM & REALISM (1880 - 1910)

- Individualism, Optimism, & Nature
- The Dark Side of Romanticism
- Resistance to Slavery
- A Nation Divided
- A Poetic Revolution
- *The Adventures of Huck Finn* by Mark Twain

3rd Quarter –BEGINNINGS OF THE MODERN AGE (1910 - 1930s)

- Modern Poetry
- Modern Fiction
- The Harlem Renaissance
- *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald/ *The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams

4th Quarter – FROM DEPRESSION TO COLD WAR (1930s - 1960s) & INTO THE 21st CENTURY (1960s - Present)

- The New Regionalism & the City
- The United States & the World
- An Era of Protest
- Nature & Technology
- Extending & Remaking Traditions
- *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker/*The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan

Movies to Coincide with Major Works

During the course of the year, students will view a number of movies related to the major works of literature studied. While these movies are considered appropriate for children aged 13 and older, school policy requires that parents are notified when movies will be shown in class that have a rating of PG or PG-13 and that you provide your permission for students to watch the films. By signing the form attached to this syllabus, you are indicating that your child has permission to view the following films:

- *The Crucible* – PG-13 (1996)
- *Dead Poets Society* – PG (1989)
- *The Adventures of Huck Finn* – PG (1993)
- *The Great Gatsby* – PG (1974) / NR—TV version (2000)
- *The Color Purple* – PG-13 (1985)

Grading System

Students receive achievement grades based on a unweighted scale system of :

A (100 - 89.5%)

B (89.49 - 79.5%)

C (79.49 - 69.5%)

D (69.49 - 59.5%)

F (59.49 - 0%)

Students should know in advance that opportunities for extra credit are rare. Students can and should check their academic progress regularly. New grades are posted regularly to Aeries (at least every two weeks); however, writing assignment grades can take up to a month to be graded and posted to Aeries.

Homework – Late Work Accepted With Penalty

Homework, or individual time spent studying outside of class, is an essential part of the learning process. Students should expect to have homework most nights. In addition, long-term projects are often assigned that require students to work independently and outside of class over a one to four-week time period. Students have access to the class agenda online and in class. Since students are given plenty of advanced notice, homework assignments are only accepted one day late with a 50% grade deduction on the assignment. In order for homework to be considered on time, it must be turned in on the day it is due during the class period; however, see below for rules regarding Absences and Make-Up Work. Partial credit is provided for students who attempted but did not fully complete the assignment. Students who plan to be gone for school events/activities or for family/religious events should check for homework in advance. All class information can be accessed online at www.ylhs.org. Just click on Teachers/Staff, and then Beth Mazurier.

Absences and Make-Up Work

Students with an excused absence are given one day for each day they are absent to make up class/homework and one week (5 school days) to make up tests. All make-up tests are given either before or after school and must be scheduled in advance with the teacher. Break/Lunch appointments are available in certain circumstances. Students with unexcused absences must either make arrangements beforehand or turn the work in on the day it is due; their Tests/Quizzes may not be made up unless arrangements were made beforehand. Students who fail to make up their work according to the above timeframes, will receive a score of zero.

Supplies

Students are expected to be prepared and ready for class to begin when the tardy bell rings. Part of this means having the necessary supplies for work to be done in class. Students are required to bring the following materials with them to class on a daily basis:

- A three ring binder with a section for Language Arts
- Two blue or black ink pens and two pencils with erasers
- At least a finger's worth of college ruled paper
- Current reading selection, when appropriate

Classroom Rules and Consequences (Honors Class)

Students are expected to adhere to all school policies and procedures, which will be strictly enforced. Classroom rules are designed to create a positive learning environment for all students. In an honors level class, it is my expectation that all students will be well behaved and self-disciplined.

Class Rules:

1. Don't Interrupt Others' Right to Learn or My Right to Teach
2. Treat Each Other with Respect
3. No Arguing with the Ref (Teacher)
4. Keep Our Classroom Clean and Organized
5. Be in Your Seat When the Bell Rings
6. Bring All Books and Materials to Class
7. Follow Directions the First Time They Are Given
8. Raise Your Hand and Wait for Permission to Speak

Questions or Conferences

If you have any questions or concerns about Language Arts III, or would like to schedule a conference, please feel free to contact me by email at bmazurier@pylusd.org or at (714)986-7500 ext. 14372. I look forward to working with you to make the 2013-2014 school year an exciting and meaningful experience in language arts.

Sincerely,

Beth Mazurier

Language Arts III
Mrs. Mazurier
Yorba Linda High School

Student/Parent Feedback Form

After reading the general information and class rules, please place an X in the space below, write any comments or questions you may have, and then sign and return this form tomorrow, Wednesday, September 4, 2013. Your signatures indicate that you understand what is expected of a Language Arts III student at Yorba Linda High School. A parent signature on this form also provides permission for students to watch all of the PG and PG-13 movies listed on the syllabus that will be shown in class throughout the year.

_____ I (We) have read and understand the general information and class rules for Language Arts III.

Comments or Questions:

Parent Name: _____
(Please Print)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Home # _____

Work/Cell # _____

Email _____

Student Name: _____
(Please Print)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Period _____

Cell # _____

Email _____

Confessions from former students:

“Keep up with homework, because it can either make or break your grade”

“Keep everything! Don’t throw anything away until after semester final exams and grades are completed”

“Don’t procrastinate! I did...it sucked :(”