



MR. KING'S ENGLISH II: COURSE OVERVIEW AND SYLLABUS

- * Successful completion of English II is required to graduate. This course is a thematic survey of World Literature.
- * This course emphasizes READING, READING, READING, and expository, narrative, and introspective writing (with research).
- * This course includes an End-of-Course exam.

6-WEEK THEMATIC UNITS & LITERARY WORKS WE WILL STUDY

• Unit 1: The Heroes Among Us:

- Minor Works:

- * Excerpts from *Le Morte d'Arthur* [1064 blue] (mythic hero of chivalry)
 - "The Crowning of Arthur"
 - "Sir Launcelot du Lake"
- * Graphic Novellas [comic pdf's on Google Classroom] (Classic and Imagined Heroes)
 - "King Arthur's Unholy Grail 1 & 2"; "Classic Popeye"; "Batgirl & the Birds of Prey"
- * Excerpt from *Don Quixote* [828] (quixotic hero)
- * "The Handsomest Drowned Man..." [1346] by G.G. Marquez (cultural hero)
- * Various Non-Fiction selections

- **Major Work:** Edmond Rostand's play *Cyrano de Bergerac* (romantic hero)

- **Creative Project:** comic strip of Drama Act

• Unit 2: Philosophy & Ethics:

- Minor Works:

- * "A Eulogy to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." [136 blue] by Robert F. Kennedy (ethical appeal/ rhetorical technique)
- * "Federigo's Falcon" a frame story [784] by Giovanni Boccaccio (noble behavior)
- * Various Non-Fiction selections

- **Major Work:** Elie Wiesel's autobiographical *Night* (prejudice & discrimination)

- **Academic Project:** Annotated Bibliography [a Research Project]

• Unit 3: A Willing Suspension of Disbelief:

- **Major Work:** Paolo Coelho's novel *The Alchemist*

- **Creative Project: Poetry Portfolio:** learn about poetry and create your own personal poetry

- **Alternative Minor Works** [if no time for *The Alchemist*]:

- * "The Pedestrian" [95 blue] by Ray Bradbury (dystopia)
- * "Dial Versus Digital" [108 blue] by Isaac Asimov (anachronism)
- * "Harrison Bergeron" by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. [handout]
- * "A Sound of Thunder" [72 blue] by Ray Bradbury
- * "By the Waters of Babylon" [43 blue] by Stephen Vincent Benet
- * Poetry:

- "If," by Rudyard Kipling [handout]
- "Space Oddity" by David Bowie [handout]
- "Rocket Man" by Elton John [handout]

PROJECTS WE WILL LIKELY PERFORM

- ◆ **Journals:** write introspective and philosophical journal entries
- ◆ **Reader's Responses:** write papers & responses for all major literary works
- ◆ **Comic Strip:** illustrate an Act of *Cyrano de Bergerac*
- ◆ **Research Project:** write an Annotated Bibliography [a Research Project]
- ◆ **Poetry Portfolio:** learn about poetry and create your own portfolio of poetry

MY EXPECTATIONS OF YOU (call them rules, if you like)

- * You will respect **EVERYONE**.
- * You will be prepared: paper, notebook, journal, pencil or pen every day.
- * You will listen to Mr. King and follow his directions.
- * You will follow all school rules regarding devices, food, apparel, and behavior.
- * You will make up missed work [due to absence] in a timely manner:
 - *You must make an appointment to make up quizzes and tests.*
 - *Any projects are due at the **beginning** of class, or it's late.*
 - *If you're absent, I'll expect homework from you on the day you return.*
 - *If you didn't do your homework, it's a zero. No extra credit assignments /No makeup!*

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- * Homework and projects will occur, so be prepared.
- * Vocabulary/ Grammar quizzes will be given approximately every week.
- * Quizzes and tests on literature and literary terms will be given periodically.
- * Expository essays or creative papers will be given on all major literary works.
- * A benchmark exam and a state EOC will be given this semester.

GRADING SYSTEM

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| * MAJOR TESTS, PAPERS, and PROJECTS: | 100 points |
| * CLASSWORK: | 10 points |
| * HOMEWORK and LITERATURE QUIZZES: | 25 points |
| * WEEKLY VOCABULARY/GRAMMAR QUIZZES: | 25-30 points |
| * READER'S RESPONSE PAPERS and "SHORTIES": | 25-50 points |
| * JOURNALS: | 10 points each entry |
| * NC END-OF-COURSE EXAM: | 20% of semester |