



CHINESE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

750 Fargo Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94579, 510.351.4957 x 579

Advanced Composition and Literature

Syllabus

Fall 2010

Mr. Brandon Carag _ E-mail Address: brandon.carag@gmail.com _ Room 30

Course Description: Advanced Composition & Literature will prepare students for college-level writing through the critical discussion and analysis of relevant social issues addressed in several works of literature. Students will be encouraged to examine their own values and opinions and to express themselves in coherent, well-written essays. By the end of the course, students should see improvement in major component elements of their writing (ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, and conventions). In addition to this, students will obtain a greater understanding of the world around them and develop skills in oral presentations.

Required Textbooks:

- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, ISBN: 0-345-34296-8
- *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding, ISBN: 0-399-50148-7
- *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card, ISBN: 0-812-55070-6

Course Outline:

First quarter: Lion's Club Speech, *Lord of the Flies*

Second quarter: *Fahrenheit 451*, *Ender's Game*

Required Materials:

- 1" 3-ring binder with pockets on the inside (this binder MUST be dedicated to ACL)
- Black or dark blue ink pens.
- Highlighters
- Red pens for correcting papers
- #2 pencils
- 8 1/2 x 11-inch college ruled loose leaf paper
- A college-ruled notebook with approximately 70 pages. This will be collected twice during the semester; you may not use this notebook for any other subject.

You must have all books and all supplies by Friday, September 3. I will conduct a supply check on this date, and you will receive credit.

Grading:

The semester grade will be calculated as follows:

Writing 50 %

Tests, Quizzes, Homework 37%

Journals 3%



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Final Exam 10%

Classroom Procedures

When the bell rings:

- You must be in your seat, ready to work when the bell rings. Wandering in when the bell rings is not acceptable, and you will be considered tardy. Late arrivals are disruptive to the class and a distraction. Quizzes may also be administered during the beginning of class—you will not receive any additional time if you are tardy.
- Immediately begin working on the warm-up in your notebook—it will be displayed on the overhead when you come in.
- You must bring the book we are studying to class every day.
- Please do not leave your seat without permission

Restroom procedure:

- Please try your best to use the restroom outside of class
- If it is an emergency, and you need to use the restroom, please walk quietly to the back of the room and sign out on the clipboard. Please hold up the clipboard, and I will give you my permission with a nod. Quietly exit the classroom and please MAKE SURE that the door closes quietly behind you.
- You should not come back with any notebooks, stray paperwork, etc. Restroom procedures and locker procedures are separate. It is important to display integrity even in seemingly trivial matters.
- Only one person will be allowed outside of the room at a time.

Locker procedure:

- It is your responsibility to arrive to class prepared with all books, materials, etc. However, unforeseen circumstances do occasionally arise. As such, you will be permitted to retrieve items from your locker once during the semester.
- If you would like to use this privilege during the semester, please quietly walk to the back of the room and sign out on the clipboard. Please hold up the clipboard, and I will give you my permission with a nod. Quietly exit the classroom and please MAKE SURE that the door closes quietly behind you.

Testing procedure:

- Please do not ask me whether a topic will be covered on a test or quiz. If I cover a topic during class time, it may be included on a test, quiz, or pop quiz. If something is of particular importance, I will make it explicit to you.
- When the test is over, I will state, "Pencils down, please." At this point, no matter where you are in the test, you MUST stop working. If you continue to work, you will receive an F on the test.
- Absolutely no talking will be tolerated during a test. If you talk during a test, you may receive an F.
- If you finish early, please turn your test upside-down, and I will collect it.

Make-up procedures:

- If you have an absence, it is your responsibility to make up the work. Your first step should be to ask a responsible neighbor about the work/announcements that you missed the previous day. If you still have questions about the work that you missed, please see me during an appropriate time during



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class (i.e. during group-work, individual assignments, etc).

- Late work due to an unexpected, excused absence may be made up without penalty within two days of the absence. (Contact me in advance if you think you will have difficulty with this deadline.)
- If you are missing a handout, please see the “ACL Make-up Work” folder in room 30 at the back of the room.
- Please turn in your make-up work in the “Late/Make-up Work” folder at the back of the classroom.
- If you need to submit a make-up assignment, it MUST have the following heading in the upper-left corner of the page.
- All tests and quizzes must be made up within a week of your absence. If you do not make up a test or quiz during this time period, you may not be allowed to make it up.

Example Paper:

MAKE-UP FOR ABSENCE ON 8/19

John Lee
ACL-Mr. Carag
8/25/09

Lord of the Flies – Question Set 2

Procedures for Late Work:

- Students are responsible for turning work in on time, even if the due date is only stated verbally.
- Homework assignments (i.e. study guides, reading, questions etc) may be submitted the day after they are due for 50% credit. They will not be accepted if they are more than one day late.
- All other late work (including unexcused absences), will drop one letter grade for each day it is late. Work received after 3 days will receive a maximum of 50 percent.
- All missing work will receive a 25 percent F.
- If you experience computer or printer problems, you are still responsible to turn your assignment in on the day it is due. If you need to use the school’s printer, you must plan ahead. Please do not come to class and then ask to print your paper.
- If you need to submit a late assignment, it MUST have the following heading in the upper left corner of the page

Example Paper:

LATE-DUE 8/18

John Lee
World Literature-Mr. Carag
8/20/09

Lord of the Flies – Question Set #1



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Warm-Up:

There will be a warm-up or journal on the board when you first enter the classroom. I expect you to begin working on this immediately. These assignments are to be completed in your notebook, which I will collect at the end of the quarter--you will be awarded credit. I will grade based on effort; each of the writing assignments in your notebook should be at least eleven lines.

Rules for Written Work:

All written work must be completed using black or dark blue ink on college-ruled 8 1/2 x 11-inch paper. Leave margins on both sides of the paper. All of your papers should have a heading that includes your name, our class, and the due date of the assignment (see example below). Assignment title should always be centered on the top line. If something is a rough draft, it must be labeled as a rough draft; if something is a final draft, it must be labeled as a final draft.

All rough and final drafts of writing assignments must be:

- Typewritten
- Times New Roman #12 font
- 1 1/4-inch margins
- Double-spaced

To award you credit for your work, I must be able to read your writing. Assignments with illegible handwriting will be returned to you to resubmit and will be counted as late work.

All essays (both rough and final drafts) must be submitted to www.turnitin.com. Essays not submitted to turnitin will receive 50% maximum credit.

Other Potential Problem Areas

- Plagiarism (using the words of another without attribution) will absolutely not be tolerated. Any plagiarized work may receive an automatic zero percent F and potentially a disciplinary referral.
- Cheating in any form absolutely will not be tolerated. Copying other students' study guides is cheating, even if it is only one question. Students who cheat will receive an automatic zero percent F and a disciplinary referral.
- If I find that you are using a cell phone during class (including texting), I will confiscate it and your parent or guardian will have to pick it up at the office
- If you must leave the classroom for some reason, please make sure to close the door quietly. This can be a major distraction to my instruction and the rest of the classroom's learning experience.
- Please do not interrupt a lecture by getting up and retrieving a paper towel unless it is an emergency. (The newly installed electronic dispensers can be quite noisy). If you have a cold, please make sure to bring tissue to class or retrieve tissue before a lecture begins.



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I have fully read and understood the course syllabus for Mr. Carag's Advanced Composition and Literature class. I will do my best to keep/encourage the stated expectations.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Phone Number: _____

Parent Email: _____