

Language Arts 9 Syllabus

Mrs. Marston

2007-2008

Materials needed:

pencils, highlighter, 12" ruler, colored pencils

In line with the state essential academic learning objectives, students in all high school English classes will work toward the following goals:

READ with comprehension.

WRITE with skill.

COMMUNICATE effectively and responsibly

Reading List will include:

narrative and lyric poetry (by poets Langston Hughes, Alfred Noyes, Robert Frost, Walt Whitman, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Alfred Lord Tennyson, Maya Angelou, Edgar Allen Poe, Julia Alvarez, Naomi Shihab Nye, Christina Rossetti, Robert Service, William Shakespeare);

epic poetry (*The Odyssey* by Homer);

great short stories of world literature (by writers Welty, O'Connor, Bunin, Poe, de Balzac, du Maupassant, Saki, Twain, James Hurst, Leslie Marmon Silko, Brent Staples, Tomas Rivera);

personal and cultural essays (by essayists Henry David Thoreau, Wendell Berry, Maya Angelou, Lorraine Hansberry, James Michener, Bebe Campbell)

drama *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare; and

novel *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee.

Students will be encouraged to choose a book per quarter for independent reading from a list of approved books which includes, *This Boy's Life*, *Around the World in Eighty Days*, *Kidnapped*, *Swiss Family Robinson*, *The Miracle Worker*, *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*, *Johnny Tremain*, *The Prince and the Pauper*, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *David Copperfield*, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *The Yearling*, *Souder*, *Julie of the Wolves*, *The Call of the Wild*, *Hatchet*, *Red Scarf Girl*.

Student Writing will include;

daily journaling,

daily vocabulary / spelling / grammar lesson,

prewriting / drafts in prose and poetic forms,

one weekly formal piece of writing to be graded, and

occasional in-class essays to be graded.

Assignments: students should be able to complete most during scheduled class time. Final draft of weekly formal paper will be homework and due on Tuesdays at the start of class.

Grading depends primarily on physical presence during class - for each absence, students will lose 2 percentage grade points. Student cooperation and participation combined with class time journaling / writing exercises, weekly formal writing and occasional in-class essays will constitute the balance of points earned for final grade.

