**English 11 Description**

According to the Sault Area High School’s course requirements:

*The goal for English 11 is to continue to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies that will be refined, applied, and extended as students engage in more complex ideas, texts, and tasks. In English 11, students will add to the list of various genres of classic and contemporary narrative and informational texts that will be read and analyzed throughout high school with a special focus on British literature and SAT success. Eleventh graders will connect with and respond to texts through transformational thinking. They will learn to use forward thinking to help make better decisions, to generate new ideas for solving problems, and to find wisdom. They will build a context for a change in their lives and develop realistic plans for the future.*

**Purpose Statement**

The purpose of this course is to prepare students for the rigor of college courses that will meet students in the very near future. This course also focusses on preparing students for the SAT which they will be required to take as juniors. The skills we will focus on include reading comprehension with a variety of texts, the elements of grammar and their application, and the components of writing expected in an essay.

**Course Content**

We will study all these works, not necessarily in the order listed.

* The Power of Language to Transform Lives (*Beowulf* and *The Canterbury Tales*)
* Informed Decision Making (*Hamlet*)
* Technology: Potential for Enhancing Human Life (*Frankenstein*)
* Understanding Human Nature: Coping with Crisis, Chaos, and Change (*Lord of the Flies)*
* The DNA of Survival (*Night*)
* Grade appropriate short stories and poems determined thematically throughout units

Calendar: A course calendar is available on Mrs. Paulus’s class website (TeacherSite). It lists all assignments, in-class work, and due dates.

**Evaluation Criteria**

This course is evaluated on a points-based system. Students will have homework, projects, quizzes, tests, and papers. Homework assignments and projects vary in point value. Quizzes are worth 10-20 points, tests 50-70 points, and major papers/projects are worth 40-70 points. Extra credit may be given, but should not be expected.

Our school employs a semester grading system with report cards issued to students four (4) times during the course of the school year. A term will be approximately nine (9) weeks. Final grades are calculated on a semester basis. Final grade calculation is based on 40% for each of two marking periods and 20% of the final exam.

**Grading Scale**

| **A** | **A-** | **B+** | **B** | **B-** | **C+** | **C** | **C-** | **D+** | **D** | **D-** | **F** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **100-93** | **92-90** | **89-87** | **86-83** | **82-80** | **79-77** | **76-73** | **72-70** | **69-67** | **66-63** | **62-60** | **59-0** |

**Late Work Policy:** All assignments are due on the assigned due date. If a student needs more time on an assignment, communicate with me before turning in an assignment late. All late work will be given credit based on effort and timeliness. If turning in work late becomes a consistent issue, we will need to schedule a meeting to understand the causes and effects of the student's late work.

If there is any missing work, it will be a 0 in the gradebook. It is up to the student to turn in any missing work before each unit ends.

Make-up Work Policy:A student will be given one day to turn in work for each day he or she has missed. A student is allowed ten (10) absences per semester. After ten (10) absences their work will not be scored. Absences excused by a medical professional, school related absences, and absences excused by an administrator will not be figured into one of the ten (10).

**Classroom Expectations**

4 Bs: The expectations for this classroom will follow the 4 Bs. Expectations are clearly posted in the classroom.

* Be Safe—Follow classroom safety procedures
* Be Respectful—Respect all who enter the classroom
* Be Responsible—Complete assignments in a timely (and honest) fashion.
* Be Ready to Learn—Come prepared to class with all materials needed

Academic Dishonesty/Cheating: Academic dishonesty is an important issue and is treated very seriously in the English Department and at Sault Area High School. Plagiarism is a form of cheating and according to the SAHS Student Handbook “cheating is not permitted for any reason.” The minimum penalty for **plagiarism or cheating** in this class will be failing the assignment. The maximum penalty is failing the course and a referral to the Administration where the penalty could be more severe.

Technology Policy: We may use technology in class to enhance learning.

**Chromebooks:** Please bring these to class daily in case you need them.

**Cell Phones:** At the beginning of the hour, please put your cell phone in the holder with your assigned number. You may retrieve it at the end of class.

**Classroom Procedures**

Paper Heading: All assignments should include a title centered on the front page. Every paper turned in will include the student’s name, the date, the course, and the class hour. For hand-written papers (homework) this should be in the upper right corner. For typed papers (formal essays) this should appear in the upper left corner.

Extra Help: I am available before and after school most days. If you need extra help or need to make up assignments, quizzes, or tests, this is the time to do so. Please let me know if you’ll be coming in so I can make sure I am available for you.

Tardiness: You are tardy if you are not in your assigned seat when the bell rings. Tardiness will be handled as per the handbook.