

English 30-1--Ms. Crumpton
Sept 2011-Jan 2012

Overall Vision: What is this class all about?

A solid foundation in ELA 30-1 is intended to prepare students for continuing their studies at a post-secondary institution. This course closely follows the Alberta Program of Studies. The content of English Language Arts includes exploring one's own impressions, honing critical thinking skills, and developing the ability to effectively understand and utilize the English language. Students will gain knowledge, skills and strategies in all six aspects of language arts including *listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing* and *representing*. Students will have the opportunity to respond to and create a variety of texts. Students will develop clarity and artistry in their personal communication skills.

Student Expectations: What do I have to do to succeed?

Students are expected to attend every class, to arrive on time, and to come prepared to work. Homework may also be necessary in order to polish final drafts and remain on top of the required reading.

Evaluation: Where do my marks come from?

| <u>Final Grade for 30-1</u> | <u>School Mark</u> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| School Mark: 50% | Course Mark: 90% |
| Diploma Exam: 50% | Midterm: 10% |

This course will evaluate how well students achieve the five general outcomes that make up the English curriculum. As outlined by the Alberta Program of Studies, General Outcome 2 and 4 will be weighted more heavily than the other outcomes.

| Outcome | Fraction of Course Mark |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| General Outcome 2 | 1/3 |
| General Outcome 4 | 1/3 |
| General Outcome 1, 3, 5 | 1/3 |

General Outcome 1: Students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to explore thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences. **REFLECT**

General Outcome 2: Students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to comprehend literature and other texts in oral, print, visual and multimedia forms, and respond personally, critically and creatively. **UNDERSTAND TEXTS**

General Outcome 3: Students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to manage ideas and information. **RESEARCH**

General Outcome 4: Students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to create oral, print, visual and multimedia texts, and enhance the clarity and artistry of communication. **CREATE TEXTS**

General Outcome 5: Students will listen, speak, read, write, view and represent to respect, support and collaborate with others. **COOPERATE**

Evaluation Procedures: How are marks collected?

Students will frequently be given formative feedback to lay the groundwork for revisions to be completed prior to summative evaluation. In order to receive the fullest possible benefit from this feedback cycle students **must** hand their work in on time. Formative feedback will not be given on late assignments unless a student has major extenuating circumstances as verified by the student's legal guardian. If, for whatever reason, a student struggles to attend regularly or meet deadlines a meeting between the student/parent/teacher will need to be held in order to discuss alternatives to this course in order to ensure high school completion.

Report card marks will be based on individual projects, assignments, quizzes, and tests as well as on an individual's contribution to group projects.

Reporting Periods: What dates should I remember?

First Report Card: Oct 19th, Midterm: Nov 8th, Second Report Card: Nov 29th
Final Exam Dates: Part A (Jan 11th), Part B (Jan 19th)

Units: What will we be learning about? Note: dates are subject to change as necessary.

Short Stories (Sept 1-Sept 26)

We will develop our analytical skills by analyzing a variety of short stories drawn primarily from *Viewpoints 12*. Students will be preparing for the written portion of their diploma exam by practicing creative writing as a preparation for the personal response to texts assignment.

Shakespearean Drama (Sept 27-Oct 26)

We will study *Hamlet*. Students will work on reading and studying this text in small groups. As a class, we will be practicing our presentation skills in addition to textual analysis.

Business Writing and Midterm Preparation (Oct 27-Nov 7)

We will hone our business writing skills by applying for scholarships that may be available to help support students in pursuing post-secondary studies.

The Novel (Nov 9-Nov 25)

During this unit, we will study the classic existentialist novel *The Outsider* by Camus.

Essay Writing (Nov 28-Dec 2)

We will analyze examples of student responses to the critical/analytical response to literary texts assignment on the diploma exam and then each student will write their own major essay on one of the texts we have studied in this course.

Poetry and Modern Drama (Dec 5-21)

We will study a number of different poetic forms, each student will write a poem. We will also study a classic modern drama.

A Note about Diploma Preparation

We will begin preparing for the diploma exam as a part of our first unit and further preparation will be integrated into our later units as well. The days just prior to Part A or Part B of the diploma will be a review and a culmination of work that we have already done in class in order to ensure student success on this exam.