

## GHS Course Syllabus

### **General Course Information**

Subject: English Year: 2012-2013

Department: English Room #: 212 Periods Taught: 1B

Course Title: Senior English

Course Description:

**“Be an advocate for yourself. An advocate is one who pleads for a cause. Your education is your cause!” – Mrs. Greblo**

This course will emphasize a variety of selections from world, British and American literature. Students will develop and refine writing, reading and oral communication skills. Students should also expect to connect reading to different art forms and life experiences. Presentations and basic essays are required.

Students will read novels, graphic novels, short stories, poems and plays to explore literature and language. Writing assignments, both large and small, will be an integral part of the class. Group, individual and partner activities will support lessons focused on maximum student achievement, school goals and state standards. Vocabulary study is integrated with the literary works. Grammar will be practiced using a sentence-composing approach and integrated with writing assignments.

Faculty Name: **Mrs. Kelly L. T. Greblo**  
[greblok@hsd.k12.or.us](mailto:greblok@hsd.k12.or.us)  
503-844-1900 , voicemail: x73171  
BA Theatre Arts and Communication Arts, Linfield College  
MAT Secondary Level English/Language Arts and Drama, Lewis and Clark College

Office Hours: **Let's chat! Please make an appointment with me during class time or via email.**  
**Parents:** I welcome an open dialogue with you. Call, email, or schedule an appointment via phone/email.

Welcome/Introduction to Course:

Welcome to Senior English! It is going to be a great year!

What would it be like to have lived in another time? How can we drop the “lens” of our own culture to see more clearly what might have been in other times and places? How can we prepare for the future by looking at the trends in the world today? How can we develop the necessary skills for success in our changing world? These are some of the questions that we seek to answer in this course. Independent reading is an important component of the course.

#### **How Class Will Begin Each Day:**

Students will have a daily agenda and warm-up. The warm-up will consist of daily reading with journal entries into your Learning Log Notebooks in addition to some vocabulary exercises that may occur at the beginning or end of the period. The daily reading will be a self-chosen novel that students bring to class with them every day.

- Note to Parents:
- 1.) Attendance! Attendance! Attendance! This course requires consistent attendance and as a result every effort should be made to avoid absences and tardiness in this class. Even with make-up work, students miss out on important classroom instruction that is difficult to replicate when they are absent.
  - 2.) Senior year is an important time for students. It is essential that they maintain their academic focus and work up to their abilities if they are to experience success in the work force or in a community college.
  - 3.) Your students will have homework in this class, most likely reading and responding of various types.

Please check in with them periodically to make sure they are keeping up and ask them to show and explain it you, this only helps them process their thoughts and articulate them even better in class and in life!

- 4.) Use this! My class website: [www.mrsgeblosclass.weebly.com](http://www.mrsgeblosclass.weebly.com)

### **Learning Outcomes**

Course Objectives:

1. To read/view and comprehend multiple texts/communication formats including video.
2. To write clearly and logically in a variety of formats using standard written English conventions.
3. To develop a mature speaking style in discussions and required oral presentations.
4. To work independently and with others to solve a range of intellectual problems.
5. To know what a successful performance is on a range of academic and “real-world” tasks.
6. To connect what is learned today to self, other studies, and the world.
7. To monitor and evaluate personal performance and progress towards goals.

### **Readings**

- Required Text:
- 1.) *Elements of Literature: Sixth Course: Literature of Britain with World Classics*
  - 2.) Regular reading of a novel or biography is expected (bring from home or check out from the library)
  - 3.) *Persepolis* by Marjane Strapi
- Teacher provided
- 4.) *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry
  - 5.) *Night* by Elie Wiesel
- Supplemental Text/Resources:
- 1.) *Grammar for High School*, by Killgallon and Killgallon
  - 2.) *Multiple independent reading texts including books and periodicals.*

Supplies Needed:

- **MOST IMPORTANT: One spiral/bound notebook, approx. 100 pages of lined paper (hole-punched, 1 per semester, NOT to be shared with other course subjects)**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> MOST IMPORTANT: Planner/calendar**
- Three-ring binder (2 - 3 inches works well)
- Subject dividers for binder
- An ample supply of lined notebook paper, white
- Blue/black pens and pencils
- A pouch/bag that stores all the tools of the trade
- **Helpful project tools:** Sticky notes ( several colors, sizes), Highlighters, White Out (liquid, pen, or tape), markers, colored pencils, poster board, etc.—you may get these as we move through the year

### **Grading & Plagiarism**

Grading Categories & Percentages: The quality of your work is what will separate your grade from just passing to excellence. All assignments will be graded using the 5-point scale (see below) and be weighted as follows:

**Assessments=50%**

**Writing Assignments=40%**

**In-Class Work/Homework=10%**

Total points will be added at the end of the grading period. The total accumulated points over the entire semester determine semester grades.

There will be homework to be completed outside of class. Due to the cut school days, you should expect a minimum of one hour of homework, **on average**, per class period.

Grading Scale: 4-5=A  
3-3.9=B  
2-2.9=C  
1-1.9=D  
0-.9=F

### **Assignments**

You are to keep all work in your binder unless notified otherwise. This is not only to verify your score on the assignment with the score I have in the computer (in case of a tragic computer crash), but to keep for the portfolio you will create.

### **Attendance**

You need to come to school every day. Your attendance is vital to understanding key concepts and completion of assigned work. Your in-class experience has value and it cannot be replicated outside of class. If you have an absence that is **unexcused**, work due on that day will not be accepted, and you will receive a zero for any assignment or test that was completed on that day.

Late Work Policy: **Late Work Policy**

Work will be accepted up to one week late (7 days, including non-school days) unless otherwise arranged with Mrs. Greblo (see her to discuss this option if you feel your work will be over a week late). Accepting late work is up to the teacher's discretion, however, depending on the assignment.

Make-up Work Policy: **Make-up Work Policy**

If you are absent, these are the things you need to do when you come into the classroom:

1. Access our classroom website: [www.mrsgrebloclass.weebly.com](http://www.mrsgrebloclass.weebly.com) where ALL of Mrs. Greblo's PowerPoints are made available to you online (and usually on the same day they were taught). Here you can see exactly what was covered in class, the warm-up, and the homework. You won't have my voice to listen to so you might need to make an appointment for outside of class to be "taught" what you missed that day.
2. Ask three students what you missed. If you are still confused, see me to arrange a meeting time outside of class for me to sit down and "teach" you what you missed. (Remember the phrase, *see three before me.*)
3. *District policy states you have however many days you were gone plus one to make up the work. For example, if you were gone for two days, you have three days, when you come back, to make up the work. This **does not** exclude you from the work we do when you come back. As stated earlier, special circumstances may be agreed upon by talking with Mrs. Greblo.*
4. The rule above **does not apply to previously assigned work. If a student is absent when an assignment or large project is due, it is due when the student returns.** If a student was in class when the work was assigned, it is still due when returning to class (i.e. here to receive long term assignment, gone during middle of project).
5. If you are absent for a test, you will need to find a time outside of class to make it up in the TESTING CENTER. **No test will be given during class time.**
6. **When turning in the assignments, at the top of the page write "absent" and the date(s) you were gone.**

7. Turn it into your class period's turn-in box.

**MOST IMPORTANT:** You must take responsibility and advocate for yourself and your education. This means taking time outside of your regular school day to sit down with me and truly learn the concepts you missed out on. Therefore, may you think twice before missing class unless it is essential.

Cheating/Plagiarism Policy: **I have a zero tolerance Cheating/plagiarism policy.** Any student caught cheating will receive a grade of zero on the assignment or exam. In the event of a second offense, the student may be removed from the class with loss of credit, suspended, or expelled from school.

Course Schedule/Outline: FIRST SEMESTER:  
WORLD MYTHS AND FOLKTALES  
"THE HERO AND THE QUEST"  
ORIGINAL MYTHS  
OWN NOVEL CHOICES  
*PERSEPOLIS*  
*THE TREASURE OF THE SIERRA MADRE*  
INTERVIEWING AND APPLICATION WRITING SKILLS  
GROUP PRESENTATIONS  
PERSUASIVE ESSAYS  
*NIGHT AND THE HOLOCAUST*

SECOND SEMESTER:  
*A RAISIN IN THE SUN*  
TEXT "THE CENTER CANNOT HOLD"  
EXCERPTS FROM *ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT*  
*BRAVE NEW WORLD* EXCERPTS  
TEXT "CLASHES OF CULTURES"  
*LORD OF THE FLIES* EXCERPTS  
*THE BEAN TREES*  
EMPLOYMENT INTERVIEW  
RESEARCH/CREATIVE WRITING/PRESENTATION PROJECT  
PERSUASIVE SPEECH  
RESPONSE AND ANALYSIS JOURNALS  
ARTISTIC RESPONSES/INTERPRETATION

\*Note: This schedule/outline is subject to change.

Classroom Conduct:

Specific classroom conduct details will be outlined in your "Classroom Procedural Contract" that we will cover and pledge to in class the first week. We will also create our "Classroom Code" together as an individual class period that first week. You will be expected to keep both of these documents in your binders permanently for quick access as needed. (Parents: if you want to see these documents, ask your students after the first week of school)

If you choose **not** to follow school rules and policies/our classroom code, protocol and, procedures there will be consequences.

**Discipline/Behavior Problems:**

1. Mrs. Greblo **Talks** to you, privately if possible.
  - a. (This is really the ONLY step I want to take; 19 out of 20 times this works. If this doesn't work, then I will move on to the next step.)
2. You will lose your **seat** and find yourself in a personal desk away from the class activities. You must remain in that desk until I give you permission to move.
3. Cool out in the **hall** and write up a "**Solution Plan.**" Wait for me. \*(See below)

- 4. Mrs. Greblo calls **home** to notify and discuss with the parent(s)/guardian(s). If needed, a plan is devised and set in motion to garner student success.
- 5. **Referral** to the assistant principal.

\*This plan will resolve potential conflict without getting you into any trouble. Neither one of us wants that.



***Students and Parents/Guardians – Please provide your signature below indicating you have read and understand the requirements and expectations of this course.***

---

Student Signature & Date

---

Parent/Guardian Signature & Date