

P.S. 035 Manhattan High School Course Syllabus

Course Code: EES88QNR

Course Name: English 8

Teacher Name: Bennett

Year and Term: 2020 – Term 2

Learning Standards:

- * 11-12R3: In literary texts, analyze the impact of author's choices.
- * 11-12R6: Analyze how authors employ point of view, perspective, and purpose, to shape explicit and implicit messages
- * 11-12W3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
- * 11-12W5: Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- * 11-12SL2: Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats (e.g., including visual, quantitative, and oral). Evaluate the credibility and accuracy of each source, and note any discrepancies among the data to make informed decisions and solve problems.
- * 11-12L6: Acquire and accurately use general academic and content-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in applying vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

Course Description: English 8 is the final piece of high school ELA. The focus of this course is choices and we will work through questions about decisions and their impacts. I have tried to design the course to be a rich, engaging, and thought-provoking experience to help you become a better reader, writer, listener, speaker, critical thinker, and member of society.

My philosophy as a teacher is to support your needs and help you with transferrable skills that will actually help you in real life. Ten years from now, it will not matter if you can remember the specifics of the plot of some book a dead white guy wrote. What will matter is your ability to think critically and creatively, respond to texts and media, communicate effectively with other humans, understand different perspectives, and use the power of literacy to change your life and this world for the better.

Calendar or Unit Map: Unit 1 – Seeking Justice, Seeking Peace: Can revenge ever be effective in righting a wrong?

Unit 2 – Taking Risks: How does someone decide whether a risk is worth taking?

Unit 3 – Finding Ourselves in Nature: What are the benefits and setbacks of interacting with the natural world?

Course Materials: Everything will be provided in Google Classroom.

Grading Policy:

Major Work (projects, assessments, discussions, etc.) – 40%

Minor Work (classwork, homework, do nows, participation, or anything else we do on the road to the major work.) – 60%

Other Expectations: All I ask is that you try your best and trust me to have your best interest in mind. Ask for help when you need and be honest about what you want from a teacher/class.