

**English 12 Course Syllabus**

**Da Vinci Design**

**Instructor: Russell Stoll**

**Room: 4304** **Email:** [rstoll@davincischools.org](mailto:rstoll@davincischools.org)

**Course Description: English 12**

English 12 will be a rigorous exploration and practice of how to better use language in expressing ideas, analyzing text, and developing concepts. The main focus of English 12 will be to help students learn and apply tactics of critical and creative thinking through reading, writing and speaking. Emphasis will be placed on teaching students to read and write at a college-ready level.

The second semester of English 12 will follow the CSU Expository Reading and Writing Course (ERWC). The ERWC is a college preparatory, rhetoric-based English language arts course for grade 12 designed to develop academic literacy (advanced proficiency in rhetorical and analytical reading, writing, and thinking). When

paired with credit from the first semester of ERWC from College Writing, this will account for a full year of credit for ERWC curriculum.

The mastery of Essential Skills necessary for completing English 12 are a continuation and expansion of skills and knowledge learned in English 9, 10 and 11.

**English 12 Resources**

**Digital Classroom Website:** dvdesignrstoll.weebly.com

My school website will be an invaluable resource for students and parents to stay informed. It is on my website that I will post assignments, calendar events, project overviews, and other helpful classroom resources. *Students and parents will want to bookmark this page and check it for weekly “This Week” updates!*

**TurnItIn.com:**

Many assignments required to complete English 12 will be submitted on TurnItIn.com. This website is an excellent tool for convenient assignment submission, for getting feedback regarding proofreading and

editing, and for checking originality of work.

*Students can find the Class ID of their class period on Stoll’s website under “Classroom Resources”, and on Page 4*

**Google Classroom:**

Many assignments required to complete English 12 will be submitted on Google Classroom. This digital hub will be a convenient tool for assignment submission, for informal check-ins, and in-class activities.

*Students can find the Class ID of their class period on Stoll’s website under “Classroom Resources”, and on Page 4*

**Mastery Based Grading**

This year at Da Vinci Design, we will be using a 1-4 grading scale that reflects the basic tenets of Mastery Based Grading. Each student’s grades will be based mainly upon his/her mastery of Essential Skills (80%), as well as his/her usage of the Da Vinci Habits of Mind (20%).

Each student is responsible for meeting all course requirements, including class participation, homework, quizzes, tests, group work, and projects. Several methods of assessment will be used throughout the academic year. Students’ projects will be graded on both an individual and group basis when applicable. Letter grades will

be earned using the following scale:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Points** | **Meaning** | **Letter Grade Equivalent** |
| 0.0 | No evidence. Marked as Missing in the grade book. | I |
| 1.0 | Evidence demonstrates partial understanding. | I |
| 2.0 | Evidence demonstrates basic understanding. | C |
| 3.0 | Evidence demonstrates proficient understanding. | B |
| 4.0 | Evidence demonstrates detailed understanding. | A |

5.0

Evidence demonstrates advanced understanding and

connections that go beyond the scope of teacher A+

instruction. *(Only offered in special circumstances)*

*Note: Any grade lower than a “C-“ is considered not passing (incomplete) at the Da Vinci Schools. A student that receives a cumulative grade lower than a “C-“ will be responsible for completing summer school, additional classes and/or special assignments in order to recover credit for courses. In the second semester of 12th Grade, students with an incomplete in English 12 may be denied full participation in senior activities, including Senior Projects.*

**Classroom & Technology Expectations**

At the Da Vinci Schools, we are lucky enough to have exposure and access to all types of technology, including iPad tablets, Chromebooks, laptops, and specialized equipment in the Fab Lab. Think of your usage of technology at your school in the same way you might think about driving a car: it is privilege, NOT a right – a convenience, not a necessity

– and can be fun and helpful when used responsibly.

As 12th Graders, it is expected that you are aware of the difference between the appropriate and inappropriate times and usages of said technology. Technology should only be used at the instructor’s explicit request – and at no other time. If you aren’t sure that you should have technology out, then you probably should not have it out.

Technological devices, be they personal or school property, may be revoked by the teacher (Stoll) if the teacher feels it

is being used by a student inappropriately. Consequences for a student abusing technology includes, but is not limited to, a verbal warning, revocation by the teacher, a call home to a parent/guardian, and/or administrative disciplinary action.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. And cheating using technology is still cheating. It’s important that you be able to share *your* thoughts, *your* opinions, and *your* ideas about the learning we will encounter. Cheating and plagiarism will result in no credit for the assignment, an alternate assignment, a report to administration and disciplinary action.

**Late Work Policy**

**Any assignment turned in late** (whether it is homework, a major assessment, or a project piece) **will receive a maximum of 2.0 or “C” credit**. This 2.0 cap on late work does not mean that points are deducted from an assignment – only that the assignment’s score is limited to 2.0 available points. *For example: if an essay draft is scored at a 4 out of a possible 4, but is turned in late, it will only receive a 2 out of 4 in the grade book; likewise, if an essay draft is scored at a 2 out of a possible 4, and is turned in late, it will still receive a 2 out of 4 in the grade book.*

Students have **until the end of the unit during which the assignment was given** to turn in any late or resubmit incomplete assignments. Once a unit has passed, late work can no longer be submitted and will receive a zero.

**Revisions / Retakes / Make Up Work Policies**

***If a student wishes to recover credit on an essay, exam or project…***

 A student may complete **one revision** on a major essay (ie: not an in-class essay or “timed write” essay) in order to boost his/her score. **ALL revisions must be submitted within the time allotted by Stoll.**

 A revision opportunity will be provided for all exams, projects, and/or in-class essays unless time or merit prohibits such an opportunity. Students are highly encouraged to ask about revision opportunities for any assignment they wish to improve.

 For an essay/exam/project initially scored as “incomplete”, **the highest score achievable by a revision will be capped at 3.0 points.**

 Due to the nature of most projects being time-sensitive and requiring group work, **only some individual components of major projects will be eligible for revision**; students will be informed at the start of each project unit what will and will not be eligible for revision at the end.

***If a student is absent…***

 It is **each student’s responsibility** to find out what they missed and what they need to do in order to stay on track.

 **Any absent student is expected to initiate communication with me about make up work**. Students have the ability to **find me during office hours and/or email me and ask** for what they missed so they can be prepared when they return.

 **Documents and calendars are available on my digital classroom website** for all to view.

 In lieu of participation in an in-class assignment, students may be required to do an alternate assignment to make up credit; however, alternate assignments cannot be guaranteed.

 Students have the amount of time they were absent to make up that work. *For example, if a student is absent one day, they have one day to make up the work.*

***If a student is absent on the day of a major assessment like an essay, exam, presentation or project due date…***

 Students will be expected to **make up the assessment on the day of return.** This is due to the fact that students will always know when a quiz, essay, exam, or project are approaching at least a week in advance.

 Students are able to **make up an assessment once**, and it may be requested that the student make it up during office hours, in the morning or afternoon, outside of class time.

 **Major assignments due to be submitted online are expected to be submitted on time** regardless of student absence unless Stoll is contacted before the date and time the assignment is due.

 Any student absent on the date of a group presentation, including Exhibition of POLs, without previous notice may be scored a “0” and may not receive an opportunity to retake or make up the presentation for full or even partial credit.

**English 12 Essential Skills: 2018 - 2019**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| # | **Skills and Descriptions** |
| **ES1** | **Reading Analysis: [ES1.ENG12]**  Students will be able to recognize, understand, apply and evaluate strategies of rhetorical and creative writing in expository and literary material across various genres. |
| **ES2** | **Writing (Content): [ES2.ENG12]**  Students will be able to distinguish and include appropriate, effective content in their arguments in both critical and creative writing assignments. |
| **ES3** | **Writing (Form): [ES3.ENG12]**  Students will be able to identify, edit and employ, both intentionally and creatively, proper formal elements of writing like grammar, organization and style. |
| **ES4** | **Communication: [ES4.ENG12]**  Students will be able to clearly and meaningfully share information, ideas and arguments in various presentation settings and group roles through analysis and application of rhetorical strategies. (ex: Ethos, Pathos and Logos.) |
| **ES5** | *Vocabulary: [n/a] – Not Assessed in English 12* |
| **ES6** | **Habits of Mind: [ES6.ENG12]**  Students will be able to fulfill class requirements and submit work according to the highest standards of Quality, Accountability and Collaboration. |

**English 12 TURNITIN.com Class Enrollment***Create a login at “www.turnitin.com” and then follow the instructions to join a class.*

**Class Period Class ID Enrollment Password**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

**English 12 GOOGLE CLASSROOM Enrollment**

*Using your Da Vinci gmail login, go to “classroom.google.com” and then follow the instructions to join a class.*

**Class Period Class ID**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |

**Novel**

 The Handmaid’s Tale

 Siddhartha

 Always Running

 Frankenstein

**2018-2019 Curriculum**

**Reading Materials**

**Play**

 Much Ado About Nothing

 Macbeth

 A Raisin in the Sun

**Selected Mixed Media, Short Fiction and Poetry**

 “The Yellow Wallpaper”

 “Everything That Rises Must

Converge”

 “The Youth in Asia”

 “Harlem”

 This American Life and 99% Invisible

(podcasts)

 Various News and Op-ed Articles

**ERWC Units**

 “Going For the Look, But   
Risking Discrimination”

 “The Rhetoric of the Op-Ed Page”

 “Juvenile Justice”

**Project Domains**

 Sociology / Psychology

 Mixed Media Art

 Media Analysis

 Experiential Marketing

 Journalism

***\*This is a tentative listing of works/authors/project domains. The instructor (ie: Stoll) reserves the right to edit this list at any time. Notice will be given if/when changes to this plan occur.***

**Instructor Information:**

**Russell Stoll**

**Room 4304**

**English 12 Teacher | Leadership Coach | Alumni Mentor**

***EMAIL*:** [**rstoll@davincischools.org**](mailto:rstoll@davincischools.org)

***Website:* dvdesignrstoll.weebly.com**

**Office Hours: Wed. 8am-9am; Thurs 4pm-5pm**

**12th Grade Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to be on-time and accountable for their attendance every day. While seniors are able to receive excused absences from school for certain reasons (college visits, etc.), seniors especially are expected to follow-up with their 12th grade teachers about assignments before any planned absence.

The teachers on the 12th Grade Team will be enforcing a strict policy regarding absences and tardies. This policy is as follows:

 If a student is absent from any one class 3 times, there will be a student-teacher conference with the teacher of this class

 If any student has 3 or more unexcused absences leading up to SLCs, a teacher from Team 12 will follow up with this students parents/gaurdians.

 If a student is absent for 5 days of school, administration will be contacted, and the student may be placed on an Attendance Contract or a Senior Contract (depending on what is appropriate)

**College-Level Content Advisory**

One of the main goals of English 12 is to make students college ready, meaning that they are prepared

to read, write and discuss college-level material. Not only does this mean material of a greater academic challenge, but also includes content that may cover topics that are controversial or explicit in nature.

Topics that will be covered in some materials read in English 12 may include:

 Violence, violent language, and physical abuse

 Drugs and illegal substance abuse

 Sexually explicit material

 Rape and rape culture

 Racial bias, prejudice and race privilege

 Self-harm, abuse, and suicide

As always, any material that could be cause for stress or anxiety will be properly prefaced and addressed in class by the teacher. Students are expected to handle this content maturely and with empathy for all human experiences, be they fictional or non-fictional. Where appropriate, warnings will be provided to students before any potentially triggering topics will be brought up.

If families or students have any questions or hesitations about the material to be covered in English 12 this year, they are encouraged to reach out directly to Stoll via email: [rstoll@davincichools.org](mailto:rstoll@davincichools.org) as soon as possible.

**Greetings Parents/Guardians!**

**Please sign this page showing that you have read and acknowledge all of the information in the syllabus. Also, please include your email address, as well as the phone number where we can best reach you! Being able to have reliable communication with parents is key!**

**If you would like to keep track of what we are covering in English 12 this year, the easiest way to do so is to go to “dvdesignrstoll.weebly.com” to find the most up-to-date info. There, you will find a weekly update post called “This Week”, various assignment posts, project overviews and deadlines, and more…**

**The first unit of English 12 requires students to have a physical copy of “The Handmaid’s Tale” by Margaret Atwood by Mon, August 20th. Students can get the book from DVD alumni, borrow it from the library, or find it used for order via online venders like Amazon. If a student currently does not have the resources to get this book by the due date, please have them see Stoll in class on** **8/17 to borrow an available copy.**

**Please have your student return this signed form by Monday, August 20th.**

*I understand and agree to the expectations and guidelines set forth in this syllabus.*

Student Name: Signature: Date:

Parent/Gaurdian 1:

Parent/Guardian Name:

Signature: Date:

Parent/Guardian Phone Number: Email Address:

Should we contact you primarily by email or by phone?  EMAIL  PHONE

Parent/Gaurdian 2 (optional):

Parent/Guardian Name:

Signature: Date:

Parent/Guardian Phone Number: Email Address:

Should we contact primarily by email or by phone?  EMAIL  PHONE

**We Need Your Help!**

**Are you interested in being a parent volunteer this year?**  **YES**  **NO**

- **If yes, what are you interested in helping with? (exhibition, POLs, etc.):  
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Every year, families generously offer to make donations to Stoll’s classroom. If you would like to donate, please put your family’s name on it (so I can thank you) and consider donating any of the following:**

o **Tissue boxes**

o **Used books**

o **Post-It notes**

o **Binder clips**

o **Colored printer paper or  
 cardstock paper**

o **Permanent markers**

o **Laminating Sheets**

o **Masking tape**

o **Expo Markers**