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Virtual Academy English II – World Literature

Fall 2020

Welcome to the Fall 2020 semester and Virtual Academy English II! We will spend the semester focusing on improving our reading and writing skills.

In Virtual Academy English II we will explore World Literature. This is an opportunity to learn more about other cultures and thus learn more about our own as well. We will view various documents from the vantage point of a cultural anthropologist.

Utilizing informational text, short stories, novels, poetry, and content based texts we will improve our overall reading abilities. We will focus on the Common Core Standards as they pertain to reading to improve our skills and master the foundations of analytical reading.

Writing will be the cornerstone of our class. Students will write analytical essays in order to demonstrate mastery of material and journal entries in order to guide their discussions.

**Grades:**

Per school guidelines grades will be broken down into two categories Practice (Try) and Performance (Do). Practice (Try) will account for 40% of your overall grade while Performance (Do) will account for 60% of your overall grade.

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| Type of Grade | Overall Percent | Examples |
| Practice (Try) | 40% | Homework, Classwork, Journals, Discussions, Rough Drafts, |
| Performance (Do) | 60% | Projects (Final Portion), Quizzes, Tests, Final Drafts, Reading Assessments |

**Late Work:** Is there late work in the Virtual World? I think the answer is, No! Please remember I will need to input grades by a certain date for the end of each quarter. I implore you all to stay on top of your work and follow the guidelines for due dates. What you don’t want is to have a massive buildup of work that needs to be completed in a couple of days at the end of each quarter. I think this will cause massive stress. I know it will cause stress for me to grade that much in a short period. I would like for us to work together to stay on track. Let me help you. Please do complete the daily check-in work so I know you are with me in this virtual landscape.

**Plagiarism:** Also called cheating, plagiarism is a very serious offense and absolutely will not be tolerated in this classroom or this school. If you are caught plagiarizing (more than three words in a row) or cheating you will receive a zero on the entire assignment. If you plagiarize one sentence in a five page essay you will receive a zero for the entire assignment. Please don’t steal the work of others.

**Extra Credit Work:** Extra credit work will only be provided to students who complete regular work. I will not create and grade extra work for students who wish to bring up their grade after failing to complete regular work.

**Remote Learning:** Everyone is experiencing their own struggles with the pandemic. While we might not be on the same boat we are in the same ocean. It’s my hope we can all work together. I am here to help. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me. Please utilize my office hours in order to be as successful as you can be in this course. While we will not have zoom classes we can zoom during office hours if that is more conducive to your learning. Remember it’s not about passing with an A – it’s about learning and growing ☺

**Learning Platforms:** We will use Google Classroom and CommonLit.Org