Course Description and Requirements

This course continues the reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills previously presented. Students will continue to build reading comprehension skills and formal English writing skills.

**Writing**: One literary analysis paper is required. Papers with less than a grade of 75% must be re-written. Other writing assignments will reinforce or enhance previous writing skills.

**Poetry**: Throughout the semester an application, analysis, and writing of poetry complements the reading, vocabulary, and writing segments.

**Reading Assignments**: William Shakespeare’s *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar* challenges students to evaluate the balance of personal convictions in comparison to one’s responsibility to government. Elie Wiesel’s *Night* explores the subtleties and horror of prejudice in a memoir from Nazi Germany in order to evaluate the world that we live in today. Several short stories will round out the reading assignments.

**Speaking**: Students are required to give an Persuasive Speech during this semester.

Basic Texts/Materials:
- *Elements of Literature: Fourth Course*
- *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*, William Shakespeare
- *Night*, Elie Wiesel
- Punctuation Lessons
- Poetry Lessons
**Student Resources:**
Come to class on time and prepared to learn! This includes having all of your supplies and being ready to begin when the light goes off. Supplies include:
- planner
- texts
- pen and pencil
- colored pencils (correcting & drawing)
- 3 ring binder and paper
- 3-hole folder

**Classroom Management/Attendance, Cheating and Plagiarism, and Failure to Work:**
WSD policy and WHS policy:
Students are responsible to maintain a positive learning environment for themselves and others within the classroom. Preparation for class begins with each student bringing their own resources: paper, pencils, pens (black or dark blue ink), homework, books, and colored pens and/or pencils for editing or correcting work.
Be in class on time. Come appropriately dressed. Come prepared to work. Respect all books, and equipment in the classroom.
Three “Business Coupons” allow students specific privileges for the semester, and, if not used, are valuable as bonus points during the semester final exam.
Examples: only water (not colored, flavored, no additives. Gum, if seen or heard is thrown away. Electronic devices will be turned over to Mr. Zobel and may be picked up at the main office.

**Assessment/Grading:**
Points can be earned by completing homework, quizzes, tests, daily assignments, speeches, and activities. Some assignments may not be made up. Work turned in late receives a reduced grade (-10% within one week). Absences are not an excuse for turning work in late or skipping a quiz/test. Work will be turned in on the first day after an absence, and tests will be made up with five (5) school days.
Make arrangements with Mr. Zobel for an after-school make-up time. Tuesdays and Thursdays work best.

The breakdown is as follows:

- 100-94 = A
- 93-90 = A-
- 89-87 = B+
- 86-84 = B
- 83-80 = B-
- 79-77 = C+
- 76-74 = C
- 73-70 = C-
- 69-67 = D+
- 66-60 = D
- 59-0 = F

Sophomore English does not have a weighted grading scale.

**Important:** Required assignments mean exactly that…”required.” Without one, or both, of the two required assignments your semester grade will be an “F.” Please, choose to complete these assignments!
**Required Assignments:**

Each of the two following assignments must be completed and passed with at least a 60% (D) to receive credit for the course according to the Wenatchee High School English Department.

- Literary Analysis Paper
- Oral Interpretation (Speech)

A score of 70% or lower on the Literary Analysis means that the analysis must be rewritten in order for it to be accepted. The speech is graded “as is” and is not subject to be re-given; unless it lacks a serious attempt.

**On-line Grade Checks:**

The procedure for checking grades is as follows:
1. After filling out the form provided by the WHS front office, you may check grades online.
2. Go to: [http://whs.wsd.wednet.edu/](http://whs.wsd.wednet.edu/)
3. Click on “Grades”

**Extra Help:**

Any time you need extra help or information, please contact me immediately to set up an appointment for us to work together. If you or your parents need to contact me, please email me or call me at the high school. I am here before and after school on most days.

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Cut and then return this lower portion to Mr. Zobel

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**Sophomore English**

**Mr. Zobel’s English classroom 250 and 255**

Wenatchee High School  **SPRING**  Semester 2013-2014

I acknowledge receipt of this course syllabus for my son/daughter.  
Period _____

Student’s Name ________________________________ Date: ________

Parent Signature: ______________________________ Date: ________