IB English HL - 2 Syllabus

Welcome to your senior year. My goal is to help you navigate it and to prepare you for college. The number one expectation that I have is good communication. I expect you to communicate with me about your concerns and your assignments. I know how much you are doing across the board, and we have a number of things we have to do just for English V. I also expect for you to communicate with one another. Support each other. Have a study group. That doesn’t mean that you aren’t doing your own work. It means that you are creating a scholastic environment with one another. This is exactly what college is like. That being said, never copy each other’s work or submit assignments you didn’t do. That’s just stupid.

You can email me at: luther.barnett@sumterschools.net. If you need to ask me something immediately or are working during the evening or on weekends, you can call me at 803-847-1089.

Texts for this year:

Semester 1

*Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston August

*The Visit* by Friedrich Durrenmatt September

*Persepolis* (The Complete Version) by Marjane Satrapi October

Semester 2

*The Handmaid’s Tale* by Margaret Atwood January

*Slaughterhouse-Five* by Kurt Vonnegut February

*Animal Farm* by George Orwell March

**Note: You need to purchase your books so that you can write in them. You also want to be taking notes in a notebook. Taking notes as you read is essential. You’ll be more mindful and actively engaged. Also, you should not be listening to lyrical music, watching television or YouTube, gaming, or playing with your phone while you’re reading or studying. If you are engaged in any of these activities while you’re working, you’re not really working. If you say you are, you’re lying to yourself.**

**Schedule:** We will meet four days a week M-TH during B block. On Thursdays, we will be in second block all period, so your assessments will happen then. That’s not a huge amount of class time, so hustle—especially on days when you have an in-class essay. I will be available to meet with you individually concerning your HL paper.

We will cover three texts per semester. I’ve given a rough outline of that above in the list of texts. We’ll focus on mastering the texts in preparation of the IB assessments. Mastering does not mean that you read it once and kind of know it. It means that you are knowledgeable to engage in a higher-level discussion or writing exercise. This means that you need to be working both during class as well as outside of class. If you hold yourself accountable, you will be more successful.

**IB English Assessments:**

**HL Essay:** You have already written this paper with Ms. Anderson. Now, you have the opportunity to improve it over the fall semester. Whatever work you used for this paper is off the proverbial table. You cannot use it for the Oral Assessment or for Paper 2.

The HL essay needs to be ready to submit in January.

**Oral Assessment:** You will be preparing an examination of two works that share a common global theme. **Note: THIS IS NOT A COMPARISON/CONTRAST ANALYSIS.** You must pick a forty-line extract from each work and examine the author’s choices within the extract. You must explain how those choices show how the author is addressing the global theme, and you must explain how the extract reflects the work as a whole. You will have five minutes per text. This will be followed by a five minutes question/answer session with me. While I cannot hear a practice run of this assessment, I must approve your extracts and your outlines. You will need to be organized, and you will need to rehearse. One work must be a work in translation. Whatever work you used for this is paper off the proverbial table. You cannot use it for Paper 2.

We will practice for the oral assessment in November and will complete them prior to winter break.

**Paper 1:** This is a cold-read assessment. You will have two passages. They could be from any genre. You have to write about both. You will have a guiding question for both passages. The best way to practice for this learning to read, digest, analyze, and then compose with no preparation. That means you could walk into class one day and that I could just give you an essay assignment with a passage and a guiding question. Knowing literary terms and being able to discuss them in relation to how an author employs them to advance a theme is key.

**Paper 2:** This is a comparative analysis paper in which you will use two of the works that you covered over the course of the two years. **NOTE: YOU CANNOT USE THE WORKS THAT YOU USED FOR THE HL OR ORAL ASSESSMENT.** You should consider picking two works that pair well with one another. You should know them and should memorize quotations that you could use to advance any argument you’re making. You will receive 5 questions. You will choose one, and then write the paper. You have much more control over Paper 2 than you do for Paper 1 because you can study the specific works.

We will practice on Paper 1 and Paper 2 in April.

The IB will use these four assessments to give you a grade for IB English. You will also be receiving a grade for the Sumter High School class, but that grade has nothing to do with the IB grade. For the SHS class, I will use the traditional 60/40 allocation to major and minor grades. I will give quizzes and tests and essays and practice oral assessments.

**Diploma Candidates:**

**Obviously, you’re also going to be working on your extended essay during the fall as well. I’ll be more available this year to work with you. You definitely will have a lot to juggle in the fall. Don’t slack off, or January and February will be unpleasant.**

**TOK Component**

**Theory of Knowledge is at the heart of the International Baccalaureate curriculum. The IB wants to students to reflect on what they know and what they believe and to be able to discern the difference. With this primary goal in mind, I think I can honestly say that the study of literature is key to this goal. After all, it is through language that we as conscious being seek to derive and project meaning both in regards to ourselves and the world with which we interact. Also, literature as a field offers the opportunity for us to discuss all fields of study and areas of knowledge.**

Parent Contact and Information Form

Print the Student’s Name Here: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents: I’ve called everyone and either left a message or spoken with you. Obviously, if you have any questions or an emergency pops up, please feel free to call me. That being said, I will treat this like I would a college course. I plan to communicate directly with the students primarily.

Again, my phone number is 803-847-1089 and my email is luther.barnett@sumterschools.net.

If you have any information that you feel I should know in regards to your child or to the upcoming school years, please let me know here:

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Please include your contact information here:

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Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_