



Reseda High School Law & Public Service Magnet Honors English 9AB

Instructor: J. Steinberg

Course Description:

The major purpose of this course is to provide a balanced language arts program *while integrating law and public service themes* which provides students with opportunities to move from the interpretation of a text to meaningful connections between the text and their experiences through a series of language arts activities that will enable them to listen, speak, think, and write about literature. The thematic framework provides an opportunity for students to use skills to explore ideas and values, representing many perspectives and diverse styles, cultures, and attitudes.

Units of Instruction:

I. Pursuit of Truth and Justice **8/14-8/24**

Introduction to Reading and Writing

- Questions and analysis
- Understanding genre
- Building blocks of writing
- Reading strategies

Rights and Responsibilities of U.S. Citizens

Necessity and Development of Law

Public Service

Pledge of Allegiance

II. Making the Case **8/27- 9/28**

Narrative (Non Fiction/Autobiographical)

- Imagery
- Tone
- Purpose

U.S. Constitution

Bill of Rights

The Courtroom

(Standards: Word Analysis Fluency 1.1; Literary Response 3.3, 3.5, 3.7; Reading Comprehension 2.8; Writing Strategies 1.2, 1.9; Written Oral 1.1, 1.2, 1.3)

III. Making the Case **10/1 – 11/16**

Narrative (Fiction)

- Elements of plot
- Characterization
- Conflict

-Point of view
-Mood
Development of laws
Different types of laws
Historical cases

(Standards: Word Analysis Fluency 1.1; Literary Response 3.2; Reading Comprehension 2.3; Writing Strategies 1.1, 1.2; Written Oral 1.1, 1.2, 1.3)

IV. Going to Trial **11/26 – 12/14, 1/7 – 2/1**

Literary Analysis
-Universal Theme
-Symbolism
-Figurative Language
Historical cases

(Standards: Word Analysis Fluency 1.2; Literary Response 3.3, 3.5, 3.7, 3.11; Reading Comprehension 2.4, 2.8; Writing Strategies 1.6, 1.7, 1.9; Written Oral 1.1, 1.2, 1.3)

V. Innocent Until Proven Guilty **2/4 – 4/12**

Persuasion
-Denotation/Connotation
-Argument/Claim
-Evidence
-Rhetorical Devices
-Counterclaim
Trial Procedure
Use of evidence
Role of witnesses

VI. Choosing Your Path **4/22 – 5/24**

Exposition (Research)
-Primary Sources/Secondary Sources
-MLA Format
-Bibliography
Career Pathways
Categories of Law

(Standards: Word Analysis Fluency 1.1; Literary Response 3.12; Reading Comprehension 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.5, 2.7; Writing Strategies 1.3, 1.9; Written Oral 1.4, 1.5)

Exposition (Technical Document)
Examining legal documents
(Standards: Reading Comprehension 2.6)

GRADING

The overall grade in this course is based on a percentage of total points. Points are received based on assignment performance in writing, reading, homework, class work, tests, and participation. The scale is as follows:

90% - 100% = A

80% - 89% = B

70% - 79% = C

60% - 69% = D

0% - 59% = F

OBJECTIVES

The objective of this course is that all students demonstrate proficiency in the following state content standards: (See CA Standards checklist in my general files at resedahighschool.net)