**English 12A Course Syllabus (2020-2021)**

# **Class:** English 12A

**Length of Course:** Trimester (72-minute periods, meets daily **except** Wednesday)

**\*12th Grade Disposition/Focus**

Leadership Qualities

**\*12th Grade Essential Questions**

* How do I know if I am developing the academic skills that I will need in my future?
* What rules or principles do I use for how I treat others?
* What responsibility do I have to society?
* How do I resolve my responsibilities to myself with those to my family members, my school, community, and world?
* How can I effectively articulate my opinions and perspectives?
* Who is in a position to help me effect change?
* What can I do to avoid repeating mistakes made in history?
* What leadership skills have I developed?
* What leadership qualities will I need to take with me from high school?
* What qualities define a good world citizen?
* How can I create the world I want to live in?
* How can I use my talents to create new opportunities for myself and for others?

**Unit 12.0: College Application Autobiographical**

**Essay/Recommendation Letter**

**Anchor Texts –**

“With a Little Help from Your Mom” – Article by Carol Jago

“What College Admissions Officers Say They Want in a Candidate” – Article

by Judy Mandell

**Writing Focus –**

College Application/Scholarship Essay

**Unit 12.1: The Power of Story: Inspiring Passion,**

**Purpose, and Leadership Potential**

**Focus/Big Ideas**

Power of story; discovering purpose, passion, and leadership

potential; dignity, integrity, self-respect; power through conviction;

responsibility; innovation

**Anchor Text (Narrative)**

*Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston

**Research Tie-In**

Online researching to gain knowledge of historical/author-related

connections

**Writing Focus**

Critical Analysis

**Unit 12.2 Research Paper: An Informative Essay**

**Geared Toward Potential Career Choice**

**Focus Skills**

Selecting a topic

Formulating a thesis

Forming a preliminary outline

Researching sources

Taking notes

Drafting the paper

Revising the drafts

Incorporating MLA-style documentation

**Audience –** Trusted adults/advisor/future colleaguein the workplace

**Diction/Vocabulary –** Should be at 12th-grade level and compatible with the

career choice

**Unit 12.3: Shared Leadership: The Responsibility of**

**the Electorate**

**Focus/Big Ideas**

Leadership; power of the people; governance; rights and

responsibilities of the people; warning; economic, political, social

indicators that predict inequity; active participation; use and abuse of

power

**Anchor Text (Narrative)**

*Animal Farm* by George Orwell; excerpts from *1984*

**Linking Texts**

“The Very Proper Gander” (fable)

**Writing Focus**

Job Application Letter

**Formal Debate Project (if time permits)**

Argumentative debate on selected topics associated with *Animal Farm*

Incorporate formal debate procedures and terminology

**Unit 12.4: Planning for a Culminating Senior Project**

**(to be completed by the end of English 12B)**

Throughout the trimester, you will begin to plan your culminating senior project.

You will be given the project guidelines as well as examples of projects that might fit

your abilities/strengths.

You will keep a working portfolio on file.

You must document your work on each of the written standards (ongoing).

**Unit 12.5: Additional Content to be Covered:**

Vocabulary Development

Advanced Grammar Skills

Punctuation Skills Review

Writing Strategy Techniques

Vocabulary Building

Self-Evaluation/Group Evaluation

**EVALUATION:**

Your grade in English will be determined by your performance on daily assignments,

quizzes, tests, and projects. Your grade will be weighted according to the following

percentages:

Daily Assignments, Quizzes, Tests, Projects - 80%

Final Exam – Comprehensive from the trimester - 20%

100%

You will be expected to keep an organized notebook, taking effective notes when appropriate throughout the semester. Active participation is expected. The following grading scale will be used for letter grades:

* 1. A
  2. A-
  3. B+
  4. B
  5. B-
  6. C+
  7. C
  8. C-
  9. D+
  10. D
  11. D-

59-Below E