

English II Honors

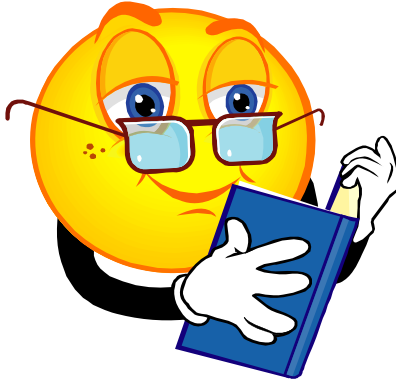
I. About This Course

- 1) This is a vigorous program designed to challenge highly talented students. You will learn to be responsible, independent thinkers who work diligently to meet and exceed the high standards of this course.
- 2) The literature study, which constitutes the core of the program, will involve the key themes of United States literature. You will be exposed to a rich assortment of novels, plays, short stories, poetry, and other materials that focus on various time periods and significant historical events in United States history. Some of the central readings include the following:
 - a) *The Grapes of Wrath* (John Steinbeck)
 - b) *The Great Gatsby* (F. Scott. Fitzgerald)
 - c) *The Crucible* (Arthur Miller)
 - d) *The Scarlet Letter* (Nathaniel Hawthorne)
 - e) *The Bell Jar* (Sylvia Plath)
 - f) *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Tennessee Williams)
 - g) *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (Mark Twain)
 - h) *A Raisin in the Sun* (Lorraine Hansberry)
 - i) *The Old Man and the Sea* (Ernest Hemingway)
- 3) Additionally, you will complete journals, compositions, and a **mandatory** research paper.
 - a) The mandatory research paper involves the literary analysis of selected readings supported by evidence from documented outside sources. (If you do not complete a research paper, you will not pass the class.)
- 4) Supplementary work includes vocabulary, grammar, and AP preparation.



Mrs. Gucciardi

III
Summer Reading
Assignment



Welcome to English III. You are in for a challenging yet enjoyable year! Please use your free time this summer to read John Steinbeck's, *The Grapes of Wrath*. As you read this novel, you will learn, through the fictional Joad family, of the hardships that migrant workers during the Great Depression had to face. You will follow the Joad family as they are forced to leave their land after a major drought ruins their crops – their sole source of income. You will travel with them on their painstaking journey to California, a place that promises to solve their problems and fulfill their dreams...but will it live up to its word? Please take sufficient notes on the characters, themes, and other pertinent information as you read. Keep a list, as well, of any questions you may have about the novel. Be ready to discuss it when you return to Triton in the fall. In addition, you should be prepared to take a test and write an essay. Enjoy your summer and your reading assignment!