

READINESS PROFILE & COURSE EXPECTATIONS

ENGLISH 3-4

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students will read novels, short stories, and poetry, as well as an array of short non-fiction texts. They will write analytical essays, conduct research, present research based presentations, and build vocabulary. Students will research and write a multi-page argument essay and present their findings to the class. This course may be used to meet the UC/CSU "B" or "G" requirement.

COURSE CONTENT AND EXPECTATIONS

Students who successfully complete English 3-4 will be able to:

- Research and document evidence for arguments on a current issue
- Prepare and deliver a speech on a current issue
- Use academic vocabulary
- Read non-fiction and fiction for purpose and theme
- Compose an essay using literary devices to explore a theme
- Write on-demand (timed) essays
- Compose a narrative (story) in a style imitation of a professional writer
- Pose questions relevant to the course content and research the answer

MAJOR UNITS OF STUDY

Rhetoric and Persuasion – Juvenile Justice & Current Issues

Vignette & Narrative – Sandra Cisneros' *The House on Mango Street*

Themes in Literature – Short stories & novel study/*Lord of the Flies*

Memoir – Elie Wiesel's *Night*

STUDENT BACKGROUND

Students entering English 3-4 should already have a good understanding of the following:

- How to read fiction and non-fiction grade-level text
- Academic vocabulary used in writing (e.g., thesis, evidence)
- MLA formatting
- Annotation strategies

Please see syllabus for additional course rules and information

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Students entering English 3-4 should also be able to:

- Write a multi-paragraph essay with an original thesis statement
- Use library resources to research a topic
- Organize and deliver an oral presentation
- Write an on-demand essay with support
- Write a narrative describing and reflecting on an event

Suggested preparatory courses

- English 1-2 or Honors English 1-2

During the course students will:

- Read three novels
- Write three on-demand essays
- Write one polished literary analysis essay
- Research and present an argument based on a controversial issue
- Craft an essential question, research the answer(s), and present their findings to the class

WORKLOAD EXPECTATIONS

- On average, students should expect to have 30 minutes of homework per night

Please see syllabus for additional course rules and information