**11th Grade English**

*Mrs. Tucker*

2024-2025

**Introduction**

Welcome to 11th Grade English. I am excited to have you as a student. This syllabus will provide you with an overview of the material we will be covering this year. 11th grade English continues to build on reading, writing, and thinking skills you will need to succeed after high school whether you choose to attend college, start a career, or join the military. Throughout the year we will read many genres of literature including novels, short-fiction, essays, non-fiction articles, and poems. We will view movies and short films and we will explore many different types of writing. At the end of English 11, students will take the New York State Regents Exam in English Language Arts. Our work throughout the year will prepare all students to excel on this exam. This syllabus breaks down the units for the school year and provides a list of materials that will be read and/or viewed throughout the year.

**Expectations**

1. **Be Respectful** Speak in turn/ Stay in your own space/ Ask permission/ Take care
2. **Be Responsible** Be on time/ Do your work/ Be organized and prepared
3. **Be Resilient** Communicate/ Be honest/ Be humble

**\* We will go over these expectations in more detail the first week of school.**

**Unit One**

**Focus**: Using Literature and Socratic Seminar to build empathy and understanding for experiences unlike our own.

**Materials**: “Born A Crime” by Trevor Noah, Video clips of Trevor Noah, Videos/Articles on the history of Apartheid in South Africa and its consequences. “Invictus” a film (based on real events) about South Africa’s rugby team.

**Overview**: Review of classroom routines and expectations. Read the memoir “Born A Crime” and explore the similarities and differences in the histories of South Africa and the US, explore the common elements of coming-of-age regardless of culture or geography.

**Unit Two**

**Focus**: Writing Research Papers (Argumentative)

**Materials**: Online Scholarly Articles, videos from YouTube Originals “The Age of A.I.” series

**Overview:** Students will be presented with a broad topic. From that topic they will create their own question which they will answer through a researched argument paper. This unit will give students the skills necessary to effectively argue a perspective on a current and relevant issue. This unit also helps prepare students for the argument portion of the English Regents Exam.

**Unit Three**

**Focus**: Understanding the importance of drama, elements of theatre, and the collective unconscious

**Materials**: Shakespeare’s play, “MacBeth,” Crash Course Theater, YouTube videos and articles about the “authorship question.”

**Overview**: Students will look at theories of Shakespeare’s life and talent and read one of his plays while exploring the why drama (plays, movies, musical theatre) is so important

**Unit Four**

**Focus**: Text Analysis and Thematic Essay writing

**Materials**: “Trifles” by Susan Glaspell, “Night” by Elie Wiesel, Previous English Regents exams

**Overview**: Using “Trifles” and “Night” students will construct Text Analysis and review the elements of literature and literary devices. Final review for the English Regents Exam.

**Contacting Me**

Communication is important to me and helps me better support your student. Please feel free to contact me anytime, especially if you have questions or concerns.

Email: [btucker@fillmorecsd.org](mailto:btucker@fillmorecsd.org)

Phone: (585) 567- 2251

Students can connect with me through Microsoft Teams anytime!

\*A link to this document can be found on my teacher page on the Fillmore Central School Website (www.fillmorecsd.org) \*

Parent/ Guardian Acknowledgement:

I have looked over this syllabus with my student. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature

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Parent/Guardian Name Printed

Student Acknowledgement:

I have looked over this syllabus with both Mrs. Tucker *and* my Parent/Guardian

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Student Signature

The following is a list of visual media being used in English 11 this year. Please check the box for any of the media you do ***NOT*** want your student to watch and they will be given a reading assignment instead.

* “Invictus” the film (PG-13)
* “Absolutely Criminal” YouTube video by Trevor Noah
* “Why South Africa Is Still So Segregated” from Vox
* “History Summarized: South Africa” from Overly Sarcastic Productions
* “The Age of A.I.” YouTube Original Series
* “MacBeth”
* Crash Course Videos
* TeDx Videos
* Elie Wiesel’s Nobel Prize Winning Speech video