

South Hadley High School

"A Tradition of Excellence"

We pledge to create a challenging and supportive academic community in which each member strives to develop his/her potential, to become a life-long learner, and to act as a responsible citizen in a diverse and global society.

MCAS English Syllabus

Course Description / Prerequisites
1216 MCAS English (6 credits Full Year)(Open to Grades 11, 12 by recommendation only)
This course is designed to provide individualized instruction for those students still needing to pass the MCAS English exam. Past individual results of the English portion of the MCAS exam will be used to develop an individualized instructional plan for each student. English topics addressed include: Language Skills, Reading and Literature Skills, and Composition Skills. Test taking skills will also be practiced.
Course Objectives / Outcomes / Expectations/ Topics
The following English MCAS standards will be addressed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify, describe and apply knowledge of the structure of the English language and standard English conventions for sentence structure, usage, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling• Describe and analyze formal and informal English• Identify main idea and details in various reading materials• Identify, analyze and apply knowledge of the structure and elements of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and dramatic works and provide evidence from the text to support their understanding• Identify and analyze how an author's choice of words appeals to the senses, creates imagery, suggests mood and sets tone• Write compositions with a clear focus, use logically related ideas to develop it, and use adequate detail• Demonstrate improvement in organization, content, paragraph development, level of detail, style, tone and word choice (diction) in their compositions after reviewing them• Use knowledge of standard English conventions to edit their writing
South Hadley High School's Learning Expectations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• LE1 : Read, write, and communicate effectively• LE3 : Study and work productively both independently and in groups• LE4 : Demonstrate personal, civic, and social responsibility• LE6 : Understand, create, appreciate, and critique artistic and literary expression• LE8 : Identify and apply appropriate technologies
Text and Resources Required
<i>MCAS English Language Arts (Summit), MCAS Mentor, Mastering the MCAS in English Language Arts</i> Copies of past MCAS Exams Vocabulary and literary term lists MCAS practice booklets
Grading / Assessment Policy / Homework / Make-Up / Extra Help
Grading and Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarterly grades are calculated using all of the following: tests, quizzes, essays, writing journals, projects, presentations, various class work and homework activities• Class participation will also be taken into consideration when determining the student's quarterly grade• Final Exam: The final exam will count as 1/9th of the grade.

- Students may make up any test or quiz on which they score below a 60%. It is up to the student to ask for a make up test or quiz, and arrange a proper time to complete this.

Class work and Homework Policy:

- Class work assignments should be completed and checked by the teacher prior to the end of a particular class period, however if a student needs more time, the assignment may be brought home and finished for homework. (The student MUST start the assignment in class, though in order to be allotted the extra time.) It is the student's responsibility to show the assignment to the teacher on the following day.
- Students are expected to complete all homework assignments on time. Late homework assignments will be accepted, however, points will be taken off.

Make up work:

- When absent, it is the student's responsibility to get all assignments and notes that he or she missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete the work missed and to turn it in two days after the student's return. If a student needs an extension he must ask the teacher.
- In accordance with the *Student Handbook*, if a student is absent for more than two days, the student has ten days to make up the missed work.
- If absent for a field trip, the student is responsible for turning in assignments that are due before leaving. A field trip does not excuse the student from taking a test or quiz. The student must take the test upon their return, or at a time arranged by the teacher.

Extra Help:

The teacher is available almost any day after school for extra help. If you feel that extra help is needed please see the teacher.

Attendance / Behavior / Academic Honesty

Attendance:

- Students are expected to be present in class and participate actively and constructively on a regular basis.
- Unexcused absences will result in a zero for the day's work.
- In accordance with the Attendance Policy outlined in the *Student Handbook*, students who exceed nine (9) absences in a semester course or eighteen (18) absences in a full-year course will lose credit for that course.
- Students whose tardiness causes them to miss more than half of a class will be considered absent from class for the purpose of the Attendance Policy.

Behavior:

- Appropriate classroom behavior is expected at all times.
- Students are expected to be in their seats when the bell rings and to come to class prepared and ready to work.
- Students are expected to follow all classroom rules and are expected to conduct themselves in a mature and respectful manner towards others.
- Electronic devices such as those mentioned in the *Student Handbook* are not allowed in class.

Consequences of inappropriate behavior:

- Verbal warnings will be given for minor infractions. An after school detention will be assigned if the behavior continues.
- If the problem persists after the above attempts have been tried the student will be sent to the planning room.
- If the behavior constitutes an on going problem the following steps may be taken: a seat change, student conference, parent conference and or phone call, a guidance referral, a referral to the student's dean.

Academic Honesty

- Any talking during a test will result in a grade of zero. Students may not make up this test or quiz.

Copying any other student's work, using unauthorized notes during a test or quiz, or any form of plagiarism will all result in a grade of zero on that particular assignment. Students may not make up zeros earned as a result of any of these offenses.

Instructor's Name: _____ Date: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

