**South Gibson County High School**

 **Honors English IV**

**Instructor Contact Information:**

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**Course Description:**

The purpose of English IV is to broaden your understanding of the English language, both through exploring English grammatical structure and British Literature. Language Arts Curriculum is comprised of the following five comprehensive content standards: Language, Communication (Listening and Speaking), Writing/Research, Informational Text, and Literature. English IV is a survey course covering the different genres of literature, including novels, drama, poetry, and epics. Intensive grammar study is a key element of the course. In addition to literary studies, students create several written pieces following different modes (narrative, persuasive, expository, etc). Other elements of communication are incorporated into the course of study, including group dynamics, interpreting different media and informational texts. South Gibson County High School will utilize TN Ready Standards in classrooms this year.

**Supplies Needed:**

**A notebook dedicated to our English class (for you to take home and study)**

**Pens/Pencils**

**A three ring binder (to be left in our classroom)**

**One composition notebook for bellwork (to be left in our classroom)**

**Texts:**

 Holts’ Elements of Literature (sixth course) (Provided)

 *Lord of the Flies* by WIlliam Golding (Provided)

*The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark,* by William Shakespeare (Provided)

*Of Mice and Men* By John Steinbeck (Provided)

\*Additional Novels are included in consumable notebook: *Beowulf (Unknown) & The Canterbury Tales (Chaucer)*

**Assignments:**

**Daily Assignments**

\*Class will begin each day with Bellwork.

\*Students will be expected to come into class and begin working on this assignment immediately.

\*Students will be given approximately 10-15 minutes to complete the BellWork assignment for the day.

\*Bell Work will be completed in a composition notebook, which should be kept in the classroom at all times.

\*Bell Work assignments will be comprised of grammar/mechanics exercises, as well as journal entries, discussion questions, and constructed responses from time to time.

**Standards-Based Assessment**

**\***Students will be administered multiple assessments over each standard in this course (Language, Writing and Research, Literature, Informational Text, and Speaking/Listening).

\*Standards-Based Tests will be administered at the end of each unit.

\*Homework (refer to School Board Policy 4.6011)

\*Homework may be assigned from time to time, at the discretion of the teacher

\*Should a homework assignment be given, it is expected that a student will turn in the assignment in a timely manner.

\*5 day policy is in place for absences

**Grading Scale:**

80% - Formal Assessments - Tests, Writing Assignments, Honors Projects (see **Honors** **Contract**)

***Projects must be of high quality and will assess learning.***

20% - Informal Assessments - Quizzes and practice activities will be graded informally.

Informal assessments are designed to support students’ preparation for formal assessments.

**Late Assignments**

**Assignments should be turned in on time!** The first day an assignment is late will result in a **five point per day** deduction.

***After returning to school from an absence, students have five school days to complete all missing assignments.***

In the event that a student has missing assignments at the time that progress reports or report cards are issued, the student will receive a zero (0), which indicates that the student continues to be responsible for learning and completing the tasks that will lead them to mastery and an acceptable level of understanding of the standards for the course.

 **Classrooms Norms and Procedures:**

***Be Prepared*** *for class (bring all needed materials and complete all work* ***on time****).*

***Be Punctual.***  *Have your phone on the table and be in your seat ready to work when the bell sounds.*

***Be Respectful*** *of the teacher, the other students, and the classroom.*

***Be Focused*** *on learning.  Stay alert (heads off the desks), follow directions the first time, listen attentively, and maintain a positive attitude. Participate!*

**Honors Information**

All students at SGCHS should experience a **rigorous** academic program that prepares them for their post-high school goals. Honors courses are designed to provide additional challenges for highly motivated and skilled students.

Students who enroll in an honors course do so understanding that they will have to meet **higher standards of performance** than in the corresponding regular class.

* Honors courses require **more work** outside of class than the corresponding regular course.
* Honors courses require a **higher level of performance** in the quality of student work to earn the same grade in the corresponding regular class.
* Honors courses require **more student interdependence and responsibility** in the **completion** of required work.

**Honors Student Expectations**

The opportunity to be in an honors course carries with it certain expectations about the **capabilities** and **maturity** of honors students. Students are expected:

1. To be independent learners, willing to read, learn, ask questions of the text, pursue outside reading and research, and integrate and discuss material from diverse sources.

2. To be primarily motivated by an appreciation for the subject and **secondarily** by GPA.

3. To spend, on average, approximately **one hour** of outside study for each honors class per school day.

4. To always turn in assignments ***on time***, as well as come to class in a timely manner, and take tests when scheduled.

5. To accept that enrollment in an honors course does not guarantee an A or B grade; **there is a possibility of receiving a C or lower grade.**

6. To **gracefully** **accept** assignments, suggestions, and coaching from the teacher.

**State of Tennessee Honors Requirements**

In the state of Tennessee, Honors courses **may** have additional points added to grades.  To receive these point, students must complete assignments that meet at least five out of the nine criteria listed below:

1. Extended reading assignments that connect with the specified curriculum.
2. Research-based writing assignments that address and extend the course curriculum.
3. Projects that apply course curriculum to relevant or real-world situations. These may include oral presentations,

power point, or other modes of sharing findings. Connection of the project to the community is encouraged.

1. Open-ended investigations in which the student selects the questions and designs the research.
2. Writing assignments that demonstrate a variety of modes, purposes, and styles.

(I) Examples of mode include narrative, descriptive, persuasive, expository, and expressive.

(II) Examples of purpose include: to inform, entertain, and persuade

(III) Examples of style include formal, informal, literary, analytical, and technical.

1. Integration of appropriate technology into the course of study. Deeper exploration of the culture, values, and history of the discipline.
2. Extensive opportunities for problem-solving experiences through imagination, critical analysis, and application.
3. Job shadowing experiences with presentations which connect class study to the world of work.

All course types which meet the above framework will be classified as honors, eligible for the addition of three points to all grades that figure directly into the course average.

Upon request, parents/guardians shall have the ability to inspect the following items: instructional materials; teaching materials; teaching aids; handouts; and tests that are developed by and graded by their child’s teacher.  Parents wishing to inspect such materials should contact the building level principal in writing.

 **Contract for Honors Course**

Students who enroll in an honors course and their parent/guardian must agree to the following conditions:

1. I recognize that to earn the same grade as students in regular classes, I have to demonstrate more independence and responsibility, as well as meet high standards of performance. Honors classes typically have more assignments outside of class.

2. I agree to uphold South Gibson County High School’s honor code. I understand that I will be subject to the consequences listed in the honor code section of the SGCHS Handbook if it is proven that cheating, plagiarism, or any other misrepresentation of the truth has happened.

3. I understand that to receive the additional three points on my grade I must complete all assignments that help to meet five of the nine honors level requirements set forth by the state of Tennessee. I further understand that if assignments are not completed or are not completed *in a timely manner*, the three points will not be added to the grade.

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**Please return this portion of the contract.**

By signing below, I agree with all statements contained in this document.

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Student Signature        Date

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Parent Signature           Date

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (please print clearly)

Parent Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  (please print clearly)