 Mr. Daniel Fister

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2025-2026 School Year

**English 3**

 The aim of this course is to continue to explore and master the understanding and use of the English language. The course is based on Missouri’s state learning standards and uses a variety of texts, assignments, and multi-media to analyze and practice English communication. Lessons and resources will be delivered in the classroom, with some online content and resources being posted on each class’s Microsoft Teams page. This course is divided into four units that will correspond with our four quarters of the school year.

**Unit 1: Breaking Away (Novel: *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller)**

This unit offers a wide variety of literature for your students to explore these questions while also exploring texts in the unit’s genre focus, fiction. The historical documents lay the foundation on which the United States was founded. Then several literary works of fiction explore the American spirit and allow students to read across genres. ***Essential Questions:* How does independence define the American spirit? How has the scope of independence evolved in American history?**

**Unit 2: The Highway (Novel: *Into the Wild* by Jack London)**

Leaving the comfort and familiarity of our usual surroundings to experience new places can broaden our understanding of the world and our place in it. Whether recounting family road trips or solo travels to other countries, narratives about journeys invite readers along for the ride and offer them an opportunity to witness how a journey can shape, and even change, the way the traveler sees the world ***Essential Questions:* How do journeys impact perspective? What do these stories teach us about ourselves and our society?**

**Unit 3: No Strangers Here**

Places have their own identity. From our country to our state to our town to our home, each one has a culture it’s known for. Where we are, then, affects who we are. The history, social norms, and expectations of the place we live can give us opportunities or limit them. ***Essential Questions:* How does place shape the individual? What makes a place influential? How have these places influenced who we are? How have they shaped how we view the world and ourselves?**

**Unit 4: Living the Dream (Novel: *Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry)**

Home is a part of who we are. It’s where we spend most of our time, learn many of life’s lessons, seek comfort and protection, and feel a sense of belonging. ***Essential Questions:* What does home mean to you? What conflicts arise when “home” means different things for the people living there? Is home something you need to “own”?**

**Assignments and Grading**

Your grade will be calculated by the following criteria:

**40% FORMATIVE ASSIGNMENTS (*class work*)**

These are to be completed **in class**, usually in our class notebook or on handouts. Includes: Do-now’s, exit tickets, reading notes, vocabulary assignments, participating in class review games/activities.

**50% SUMMATIVE ASSIGNMENTS (*quizzes and writing projects*)**

**Quizzes:** almost every week we will have a written quiz! ***If you are absent, you can complete it late but might lose some points.***

**Writing Projects:** Each quarter we will have longer writing projects, which include all steps of the writing process (prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, publishing).

**10% Semester Final Grade**

This will be a semester final test or writing assignment.

**Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) Policy**

**AI *is a TOOL, NOT a SHORTCUT!*** Most teachers can recognize the use of AI from students; and while it can be helpful for ideas/information, **it cannot replace your ability to think, write in your own words, or read!**

**AI GRADING POLICY:**

**Assignment turned in with AI copy/paste:** If it perfectly completes the assignment and is close to grade level, **you will get a D (60%) on the assignment**. \**If I think it is AI but you claim to have written it, we can talk about the assignment to see if you wrote it.*

**Assignment turned in written in your own words:** You **can get full credit!** Even if AI helps you write by giving ideas, if it completes the assignment and makes sense, I will grade it normally (standard A to D grading)

**Classroom Policies**

 Students are expected to arrive to class on time and participate fully in our class activities. **While I will provide notebooks and handouts to use in class, please bring your own writing utensil and device for participating in class activities.** I will always have some extra pencils for students. Students must follow the District’s behavior policy for maintaining a safe and effective classroom environment.

**Tardy/Cut Policy:** If you are late to class, you will be marked Tardy. Many tardies will result in detentions or ISS. **If you are more than 10 minutes late to class with no note, this will be marked as a ‘Cut’.** Cutting class will hurt your grade and have school disciplinary actions taken.

**Cell Phone Policy:** *New to the District! Cel phones and other devices are turned in at security in the morning and returned at the end of the day.*

**Late Assignment Policy**

**--I allow students to turn in assignments late** but you cannot usually receive full credit; 10%-20% will be deducted from the final grade, depending on how late it is turned in (*life happens, if you have a significant reason for late assignments please explain if you want full credit*)