

**English III/ 2009- 2010**  
**Ms. Tolle- Rm. 118**

Dear Students:

Welcome to English III, otherwise known as “The American Literary Experience.” The focus of this course will be what America represents to us and well as others in the world, from its discovery to modern-day America. This class will push you to truly evaluate your own perceptions of America and force you to examine why you feel the way you do about America. I am really looking forward to getting to know each of you and experiencing American literature together.

**CURRICULUM GOALS:**

This study of American literature will familiarize you with the trends and changes in American culture that are still apparent even today. My goal is to not only prepare you for the rigors and responsibilities of college level work but to also build your confidence in your own ability to meet these challenges. This course emphasizes intensive grammar instruction, enhancement of reading comprehension, developmental writing, and acquisition of vocabulary.

**GRADING SCALE:**

60% Major Grades: reports, paper, projects, tests, outside reading, book tests  
40% Minor Grades: daily work and preparation, participation, journal checks

**TUTORIALS:**

I will be available for tutoring during my conference period and after school until 3:45. If you would like to stay later, you will need to make an appointment. There will be a calendar posted outside the classroom door to make the appointment.

**CONFERENCE PERIODS:**

4<sup>th</sup> block (A Day)  
8<sup>th</sup> block (B Day)

**MAKE-UP WORK/ RETESTING:**

Regular attendance is crucial to understand and keep up with classroom activities. In the event of an unexpected absence, however, all minor grades may be turned in the next class period. However, **all long-term Major Grades must be turned in on the original date assigned whether you attend school that day or not. THERE IS NO LATE WORK.** Missed tests will be taken the next class period attended. **There will be NO RETAKES for any MAJOR TEST;** please be prepared the original date, as it will be your only opportunity.\*

### **SUMMER READING:**

I hope you took “the leap” to read *East of Eden* this summer. There will be a test given September<sup>th</sup> and<sup>th</sup> preceded by two book talks on . I hope that you will properly prepare yourself.

### **DISCIPLINE EXPECTATIONS:**

I always treat my students with respect and I expect respect in return. I expect each of you to behave appropriately at all times, as you are now juniors in high school. I will refer to the student handbook for specific guidelines.\*

### **SUPPLIES:**

In addition to a section in a three ring binder and all necessary writing materials, each student will need the following:

- a binder with 5 dividers. You are responsible for keeping up with all distributed materials as finals are comprehensive.
- one box of tissues (optional)
- Students will also need to obtain several novels throughout the school year. If for any reason you are unable to provide your own, please let me know.

You will need to have purchased a copy of *Scarlet Letter* in class by September 7<sup>th</sup>. If for any reason you think you will not be able to get a copy of the book, please let me know.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

If you need to e-mail me, you may do so at [TolleD@cisdmail.com](mailto:TolleD@cisdmail.com). The classroom phone number is (817) 949-5841, where you may leave a message and I will return it after school or during my conference periods. Conferences will be granted by appointments only.

\* I reserve the right to determine each case on an individual basis.

**Please have your parents read the above information, sign the following statement, and return the signed sheet to me by September .**

Student: \_\_\_\_\_  
[printed name]

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the class expectations for English III- Ms. Tolle's class and am fully aware of the responsibilities of each student in the class.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers:      Hm#  
                                    Wk#  
                                    Cell#  
  
                                    E-mail

Comments and concerns:

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