

**Ms. Thomas**

Room 56

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**English 7/8  
Lit. Fusion**

**Course Description:** English 7/8 (12<sup>th</sup> grade English) is a required course for students with skills at or above grade level. It is a literature-based and writing-based course with vocabulary development, reading comprehension, and oral expression. There will be heavy emphasis on the integration of technology. With this in mind the class website is <http://www.litfusion.com>; use it!

**Textbook and Supplementary Materials:** (subject to change depending on availability and individual class needs)

**Fall Schedule- Early Lit.**

**Literature Beginnings**

Mythology & Religion

*Beowulf*- Unknown

*Canterbury Tales*- Chaucer

*Canterbury Tales*- Chaucer Video

**Shakespeare**

*Othello*- Shakespeare

*Othello*- DVD

*Hamlet*-DVD

*Much Ado About Nothing*- VHS

**Classic Book Report Project**

**\*\*Suggested Pod Casts\*\***

- Grammar Girl
- Princeton Review Vocabulary

**Spring Schedule- Multicultural Lit.**

**Philosophy and Literature**

*Metamorphosis*- Kafka

*The Stranger*- Camus

*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*- Kesey

*Slaughterhouse 5*- Kurt Vonnegut

*The Man Who Wasn't There*- Movie

**Symbolism, Metaphor, Simile**

*Their Eyes Were Watching God*- Hurston

*Their Eyes*- DVD

*Always Running*- Rodriguez (time permitting)

**Movie Unit**

*Casablanca*- Film Nior

To be Announced

**Research Paper**

**1000 pgs. EACH Semester Outside Reading (Scheduled Book Talks)**

**Objectives:**

1. You will learn about yourself, your assumptions, and beliefs, through reading, discussing, and writing about literature and your own experience.
2. You will learn about others, including those in you classrooms and communities, but also people of other cultures, other places, and other times.
3. You will learn how texts operate, how they shape our thinking and manipulate our emotions.
4. You will continue to broaden your vocabulary while building important grammar skills.
5. You will gain an appreciation for the Humanities, so that you will be active readers, writers, speakers, and thinkers for the rest of your lives.
6. You will gain more knowledge about the internet as an information source and the effective use of a variety of computer programs including, but not limited to iMovie, Pages, PowerPoint/Keynote, MS Word/Apple Works.

### Required Materials:

1. An open mind
2. 5 Subject Notebook (preferably with plastic cover) By Tuesday August 28th.
3. 1 Gig. Flash Drive
4. Glue Stick
5. Appropriate writing instruments- pens, highlighters, etc.
6. The appropriate novels, short stories, or other reading material (SSR book).

### Grading:

94-100% A	90-93% A-	87-89% B+	84-86% B	81-83% B-
77-79% C+	74-76% C	70-73% C-	67-69% D+	64-66% D
60-63% D-	0-59 % F			

Grades will be based on a cumulative point system that is designed to weight outside reading requirement, participation, assignments, projects, presentations, tests, quizzes, and essays.

### Assignments:

1. Other than all standard class assignments, you are required to read 1000 pages per semester from approved books of your choice.
2. All work is due at the beginning of class, or is considered late. I do not accept late work, see #4.
3. Most work unless otherwise specified will be in your notebook. Some of the exceptions are book reports and essays they will be handed in individually at the beginning of class.
4. Cheating on in-class or homework assignments, and plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in a grade of F and score of zero of that assignment. More than one case of cheating and/or plagiarism may result in the failure of this class.
5. In the case of an **EXCUSED ABSENCE ONLY** you have as many days as you are absent to make up work. You must turn in the work due the day of absence immediately upon your return.
6. **I DO NOT AND WILL NOT ACCEPT LATE WORK!!!** For any and all **unexcused** absences you will receive a zero (0), no exceptions.

### Test and Quizzes:

All tests and quizzes can be made up during advisory period within five days only. I have a strict **NO TALKING** policy that begins the moment the first test/quiz is handed out. Violations of this policy will result in a 0 or F. If a cell phone is in class on the day of the test, the phone will be confiscated and the student will receive a 0 for the test.

### Class Procedures:

1. Be polite and respectful
2. I expect everyone to be on time and prepared. Be in your seat ready to work or read (SSR) when the final bell rings. **If you are tardy more than 3 times per semester and for each unexcused absence you will lose 5 participation points for each.**
3. Please raise your hand when you would like to speak so everyone, including myself can hear what you have to say. Keep all negative or profane ideas outside of our learning environment.
4. No food or drinks (except water), gum, and candy are prohibited.
5. The bell does not excuse you. I will excuse you. Do not pack up your things or turn off your brain just because we are getting close to the end of class.
6. You must follow all Lincoln and SJUSD rules.
7. Use advisory period wisely.

**Consequences:**

Failure to comply with the above rules will result in the following:

1. Verbal or non-verbal warning
2. Seat change and or/ conference with teacher
3. 15 minutes of detention during lunch, advisory, or before school
4. Lunch clean-up
5. Referral to guidance counselor and or administration

I am always available if you have questions or concerns. I look forward to a challenging and rewarding year as your teacher.

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I have read, understood, and agree that I am responsible for meeting this courses requirements. I know that Ms. Thomas is available to answer any and all questions I may have about them.

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Student Signature

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Date

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Parent Signature

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Date