

**2019-2020 Syllabus for Seminar Humanities Advanced English 3-4**  
**English Department • La Jolla High School**

**1. Course Rationale**

English language arts instruction is designed to support students in developing proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The instruction is intended to support students in achieving the common core state standards for English language arts and prepare students for success in college and the workplace.[ps://www.sandiegounified.org/course-study](https://www.sandiegounified.org/course-study))

**2. Official Course Description from the LJHS Academic Handbook**

Seminar Humanities ENGLISH 3, 4 Grade 10 [UC] [CSU]

An advanced course for students with superior ability which addresses the content of English 3, 4, but in a broader, more intensive manner. Students will develop a broad understanding of world literature while developing depth of perception, critical judgment, vocabulary, and effective written and oral expression. Writing critical and expository essays is emphasized.

Prerequisite: A score of “Advanced” or “Proficient” on the English California Standards Test, and a grade of “A” or “B” in both semesters of the previous English class.

**3. Student Expectations for Success**

The extent to which a student will succeed in this course involves a combination of time management, goal-setting, and adherence to societal expectations regarding interaction with and respect for fellow students and staff. To demonstrate effective time management skills, students are expected to maintain a calendar/planner and devote enough time each night to complete the homework, review concepts, and study, as well as read regularly for schoolwork and for pleasure. To meet goals, students need to continue a cycle of self-reflection: what did I need to learn today (what was the purpose of the lesson), did I achieve the stated outcome, and what can I do to continue to improve/learn? To achieve success in the La Jolla High School environment, read the school’s mission statement, core values, and student-learner outcomes.

La Jolla High School’s Mission Statement and Core Values

LJHS strives to provide an effective, innovative, and relevant educational experience for its students, challenging them to achieve their full intellectual, social and emotional potential.

CORE VALUES:

- Excellence – We encourage faculty, staff, coaches, and students to innovate and collaborate with each other in order to experience a productive process and meaningful outcomes.
- Honor – We create a culture of honesty and respect for all interactions.
- Fortitude – We foster an appreciation and respect for intellectual curiosity, academic rigor and the hard work required to achieve lasting success.
- Community – We engage fully in our environment—on campus, in our neighborhoods, and in the world beyond us.

La Jolla High School's Schoolwide Student-Learner Outcomes (SSLOs)

1. COMMUNICATE AND COLLABORATE

Students will demonstrate effective oral, written, technological, visual, and interpersonal communication skills in order to experience a productive and meaningful outcome.

2. ANALYZE AND EVALUATE

Students will demonstrate the higher order thinking skills of analysis, synthesis, application, and evaluation in order to cultivate intellectual curiosity, engage in academic rigor, and develop a focused work ethic.

3. ENGAGE AND INTERACT

Students will engage in their school environment in order to create a school community that fosters a culture of honesty and respect for all interactions. Students will develop strength of character that prepares them to make a significant difference in the world.

4. THINK BEYOND

Students will become thoughtful, engaged citizens in a global society prepared for participation in the world beyond high school. Students will learn about the cultural, political, historical, scientific, ethical, and economic forces shaping the world.

#### 4. Pacing Guide for Seminar English 3-4

This pacing guide is subject to change without notice. Units may not be taught in the order listed so that teachers may share materials between classes or adjust the curriculum to school events, etc. Teachers may also choose between units listed.

Semester	Curriculum
1	<p><i>Night</i></p> <p>Archetypes in Ancient Literature (example texts: excerpts from <i>The Epic of Gilgamesh</i>, Genesis and the Psalms)</p> <p>Classical Greek and/or Roman Literature (main text: <i>Oedipus Rex</i> or <i>The Aeneid</i>)</p> <p>African Literature (main text: <i>Things Fall Apart</i> by Chinua Achebe)</p> <p>Indian Literature</p> <p>Chinese and Japanese Literature and/or</p> <p>Persian and Arabic Literature</p> <p>Writing assignment common to AP Euro and English Pre-AP Writing</p> <p><i>Common Assessments: In-class Literary Analysis Essay</i> <i>Happiness Argument Essay</i> <i>Vocabulary</i></p>
2	<p>Research Paper (MLA Format)</p> <p>Medieval European Literature</p> <p>Renaissance European Literature (main text: <i>Macbeth</i>, <i>Julius Caesar</i>, or <i>The Tempest</i> by Shakespeare)</p> <p>Latin American Literature (main text: <i>Chronicle of a Death Foretold</i> by Gabriel Garcia Marquez)</p> <p>Modern European Literature (including <i>Candide</i> and satire)</p> <p>Writing assignment common to AP Euro and English Pre-AP Writing</p> <p><i>Common Assessments: Research Paper</i> <i>Vocabulary</i></p>

#### 5. Homework Requirements

Homework is the practice needed to improve the skills and expand the knowledge introduced during class time.

- Homework usually entails reading and some writing.
- Work not completed in class should be finished for homework.
- It is incumbent on the student to keep up with the reading and writing assignments.

Homework assignments will be communicated by the teacher daily, both visually and verbally

Warning about Plagiarism In addition to the above, a student may receive a low scholarship grade based on refusal to follow the academic honesty policy. A first offense for plagiarizing or copying is a 0 on the assignment. Second-time offenders may earn an F in the class. Plagiarism includes copying someone else's work, in part or whole, and/or passing someone else's work off as one's own; or, using direct quotes or underlying ideas from other sources without citation. These are serious offenses—in college, a student can get expelled for plagiarism. Do not do it!

## 6. Grading

### Scholarship Grades:

Grades are calculated using a weighted point system. Assignments that are turned in late will not be eligible to receive the highest grade possible. All late and makeup work is due by a cutoff date announced by the teacher prior to the end of the grading period. Late work affects a student's citizenship grade. Turning in work on time is expected! Excessive absences which keep a student from participating in class may lower grades. Students must accumulate the following percentage of points possible in order to earn a scholarship grade of:

- A** 90 - 100%
- B** 80% - 89%
- C** 70% - 79%
- D** 60% - 69%
- F** Below 60%

Writing	35%
Tests and Quizzes	20%
Projects and Classwork	20%
Reading	15%
Vocabulary	10%

### Citizenship Grades:

To graduate from high school, and to participate in many extracurricular activities including athletics, you are required to maintain a 2.0 grade point average in citizenship. The following descriptions should provide a guide in determining what you can expect in this course.

4.0 E = Excellent      3.0 G = Good      2.0 S = Satisfactory      1.0 N = Not Satisfactory      0.0 U = Unacceptable

To earn a citizenship grade of:

- E** The student demonstrates the citizenship values above, consistently participates in class, and shows leadership qualities. The student has no warnings or reminders about behavior. The student consistently meets and often exceeds behavioral expectations. His/her absences are minimal and excused. The student follows classroom rules consistently and dependably. The student completes assignments on time. The student has fewer than four tardies.
- G** The student demonstrates the citizenship values above, participates a few times, has at most one reminder about behavior. The student typically displays positive behavior and contributes to the learning environment. The student is consistently on task and engaged. The student follows classroom rules. The student generally submits work on time. The student may have one to four tardies.
- S** The student may demonstrate citizenship values above, but his/her participation is inconsistent.. The student has turned in late work more than a few times. The student is inconsistent about following classroom rules. The student has been warned about a recurring unacceptable behavior and has not corrected or changed his/her behavior. The student may have more than four tardies. The student may have one or two unexcused absences.
- N** The student does not demonstrate citizenship values above. The student frequently exhibits disruptive behavior and fails to follow classroom rules. The student is almost always late with assignments, or does not turn them in at all. Negative behavior patterns have not improved. The student may have more than five tardies. The student may have three unexcused absences.
- U** The student breaks classroom rules regularly (at least weekly, sometimes daily), and has received multiple warnings. The student makes little attempt to change his/her behavior. The student seldom completes work. The student may have more than 6 tardies, three or more unexcused absences (or one verified truancy), or has exhibited behavior in class that led to severe disciplinary action.

### Universal Tardy Policy:

The first week of each semester will be a tardy grace period; i.e., tardies will not be recorded. Teachers will counsel students about the tardy policy, and tardies will count thereafter.

After the first week:

Level 1: For the first 1-3, teachers give a warning.

Level 2: For 4-5 tardies; after 4 tardies: citizenship grade may be lowered, parent contacted by teacher. After 5 tardies: citizenship will be lowered, parent contacted by teacher.

Level 3: After 6 tardies, student gets a referral and sent to a VP for further disciplinary action.

Tardy counts start over at the semester.

### Unexcused Absence Policy

By the end of each grading period, teachers will check the absences records for students and count the number of unexcused absences. One to two unexcused absences may reflect a clerical error or failure by the parent to call in an excuse. But a third unexcused absence in a grading period shows a pattern of absences that will lower a student's citizenship grade to an N. Four or more unexcused absences will earn the student a U. If an unexcused absence is verified as a truancy then the citizenship grade may drop immediately to a U.

### **7. Student Support Plan**

#### Before a unit of instruction begins:

- Students will know the agenda, purpose, and targeted standard for the day.

#### During instruction:

- The teacher will provide instructions in multiple ways. Students will be able to ask for assistance or clarification. Many activities will involve dyads or triads, so students will work cooperatively. Several essays will involve multiple drafts with students working on revision. Some essays will be on-demand in-class essays. On specific activities, students will be able to ask for help from fellow students.
- Collaboration is embraced and utilized. It should be noted, however, that the teacher will designate appropriate times for collaboration, and will clarify which activities/assignments will involve collaboration rather than individual effort.
- The teacher will announce/post his/her availability for conference hours if a student needs further clarification or help with an assignment.
- The teacher will answer questions via e-mail or phone at his/her earliest convenience.

#### After assessment:

- After a final draft of a writing assignment is graded, a student may ask to review the details of the parts of the paper that did not meet the expected standards in a meeting with the teacher upon request, in order to learn from his/her mistakes and improve on the next assignment.
- All tests are final. No retakes are allowed.

Items are subject to change.