**Course Description**

**Ms. Kelli Green English 12: Studies in Composition Room 200**

kelli.green@fcps.org 240-236-7003 Office hours: Wed., Thurs. 2:25 – 3:00 or by appointment

The focus of this course is the writing process as it relates to particular types of writing in preparation for college and career level writing. Students will write extended compositions in a variety of genres to improve communications skills and writing ability, to expand vocabulary, and to recognize and employ techniques used to address the needs of the writer, audience and purpose of a text. Students will explore Writing for Life through description, narration and resume preparation, and Writing for Style via definition, process, cause and effect, and classification essays. Students will also compare and contrast characters and texts, flex their persuasive and oral presentation talents, and work to master research, editing, and revision skills.

**Student Expectations**

This course is as an FHS graduation requirement. In order to pass the course and thus graduate, students must complete every component of the English 12 Portfolio. This means that students must submit ***every*** assigned paper in order to satisfy the requirements of the course. Students are expected to attend class regularly and make up work missed during absences. While in class, students are expected to participate actively. It is crucial for students to complete assignments on time and prepare diligently for assessments.

**Materials**

These things need to be brought to class each day.

1. A three-ring binder with **plenty of white, standard-size, loose-leaf paper**, with divisions for vocabulary and grammar, homework, classwork and notes, and compositions.
   1. You must make sure that you save all of your composition assignments—in your binder and/or on disk. This work will be referred to as your “Working Portfolio.” Your corrected and revised drafts of these assignments will be collected in your “Final Showcase Portfolio.”
2. Pens (**blue or black**, plus another color for editing) and pencils
3. Appropriate texts
4. An open mind (You will never be told not to bring an open mind to class! ☺ )

**Texts**

Over the course of the semester, we will be referring to and reading from: *The Seagull Reader: Essays* and *Patterns for College Writing.* We will also read and explore *House on Mango Street* (1984)by Sandra Cisneros*, The Catcher In The Rye* (1951)by J.D. Salinger*, Into the Wild* (1997) by Jon Krakauer, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* (1937) by Zora Neale Hurston, “Othello”(1602) by William Shakespeare,and other novels to be determined at a later date*.* All texts have been previewed with the intended student audience’s age, ability level, and maturity level in mind, and selected because of their literary merit and usefulness in reaching instructional objectives and FCPS indicators. Some individuals, however, may find objectionable language or content. Please see me to discuss any concerns and possible alternate selections.

**Grading**

All class assignments—essays, journal entries, timed writings, tests, quizzes, classroom work, homework, major compositions, etc.—are assigned a specific point value. Grades are determined by dividing the total points possible into the actual points earned within one of the following categories that will be weighted according to a percentage system:

**Summative** (Tests, Essays, Quizzes) 60%

**Formative** (class work, class participation, journal entries,   
warm-ups, work demonstrating the writing process) 30%

**Homework** 10%

* If you miss a test or quiz, it is your responsibility to make it up.
* It is also your responsibility to keep track of your grades. I will, however, post grade sheets periodically.
* Ten percent will be deducted per day for each late assignment or paper**, fifteen percent over a weekend** – not to exceed 50%.
* Homework assignments will not be accepted late unless you were absent.
* **The last paper of the semester will not be accepted late.**
* Portfolio pieces assigned in term 1 or 3 will only be accepted until the interim date of term 2 or 4. If a paper assigned in term 1 or 3 is turned in during the next term, it will not impact nor be counted in the term grade. This paper will only be counted in the CRES portfolio.
* If absent, you are responsible for any work you miss.

**CRES Grade for English 12:** Studies in Composition is based on your Final Showcase Portfolio, which consists of the following:

* 1. 5 final, revised essays representing a variety of writing forms to include primarily persuasive and expository writing – **MUST** be typed.
  2. One FCPS assigned timed writing sample (students will select and include the best of four in-class timed writings.
  3. Other examples of students’ formative writing
  4. No original pieces, not previously submitted for a grade, may be included in your Final Showcase Portfolio.

Your **final semester grade** will be composed of 40% from Term I, 40% from Term II and 20% from the CRES writing portfolio.

**Grading Scale**

90 - 100 = A (Extraordinary work – above and beyond!)

80 - 89 = B (Well done!)

70 - 79 = C (Average – try harder.)

60 - 69 = D (You definitely can do better.)

0 - 59 = F (Re-evaluate your learning needs.)

**Attendance**

* Please make every effort to be here every day. A tremendous amount of information is covered in 90 minutes.
* If you are absent on a test day, you will be given a different test and YOU must schedule a time after school to take the assessment.
* Tardiness will not be tolerated. Be in your desk with your materials out when the bell rings.

**Restroom / Food and Drink**

* You must have your FHS planner in class every day. You will use the “passport” pages in the back as a hall pass. It is important to use the restroom between classes so that you do not have to leave during instruction. You may bring **water** to class, provided that it is in a clear bottle and all trash is thrown away. If these privileges are abused, they will be revoked. NO food will be permitted in class or in the surrounding hallways. You may have water in the class. If you insist on bringing food to class, consequences will follow the FHS discipline policy.
* **\*\*\*ALLERGIES\*\*\*** absolutely NO smelling products are allowed in class. No perfumes, powders, or lotions are allowed due to allergic reaction.

# Miscellaneous

1. The teacher, not the bell, will dismiss students. DO NOT pack up before the bell rings and do not leave your seat unless told to do so.
2. NO food will be permitted in class or in the surrounding hallways. You may have water in the class. If you insist on bringing food to class, consequences will follow the FHS discipline policy.
3. No unapproved head gear may be worn in the building.
4. Homework, papers, and projects will be turned in when the teacher calls for it or it is considered **late**. If you are returning from an absence, please hand the homework directly to me. Do not put it on my desk. If you do, it will not be accepted.
5. Please bring more than one pen / pencil to class each day. You may pawn something you own in exchange for a temporary loan but I will require that you give me something in return: A phone, shoe, iPod, car keys… Pawned items will be returned when the pen / pencil is returned.

**EDMODO**

Group code:

Notes:

Please feel free to call Ms. Kelli Green at 240-236-7003 or send email to [kelli.green@fcps.org](mailto:kelli.green@fcps.org) if you have any questions or concerns.

**Honor Philosophy**

The community of Frederick High School acknowledges that learning is a right and responsibility of all students. A successful school experience requires the highest standards of integrity on the part of all involved. A student's work is a reflection of self-pride. Therefore, the honor philosophy of this community recognizes that ideas belong to those who create and articulate them; that to submit work that is not one's own is to insult the efforts of one's peers; that to claim the thoughts or works of another as one's own is to steal from the originator and to deceive those to whom the material is presented; that to be dishonest is to degrade oneself. Students will be asked to make the following pledge on select assignments.

**Honor Pledge-I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this assignment. My name on this piece of work affirms my character and honor.**

**Definition of Cheating:**

Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids or other devices, or obtaining unauthorized assistance from any source or person for work submitted as one's own individual efforts on any assignment. Cheating is also the act of helping or attempting to help another student commit an act of academic dishonesty.

*Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following actions*

1. Copying from another student's paper or test, or receiving assistance from another person during an exam or other assignment.
2. Possessing, buying, selling, removing, receiving or using at any time or in any manner not previously authorized by the teacher a copy or copies off any exam or other materials intended to be used as an instrument of evaluation in advance of its administration.
3. Using materials or equipment not authorized by the teacher during a test or other academic evaluation I.
4. Working with another or others on any exam, take home exam, computer or laboratory work, or any other assignment when the teacher has required independent and unaided effort
5. Attempting to influence or change an academic evaluation, grade or record by deceit or unfair means such as damaging the academic work of another student to gain unfair advantage in an academic evaluation, or marking or submitting an exam or other assignment in a manner designed to deceive the grading system
6. Submitting, without prior permission, the same academic work that has been submitted in identical or similar form in another class
7. Gaining an unfair advantage in an academic evaluation by receiving specific information about a test, exam or other assignment
8. Providing assistance to another during an exam or other assignment in a way not authorized by the teacher
9. Copying homework-even one or two answers
10. Minimizing a computer screen rather than closing all programs during a quiz or test. A minimized screen has the potential to be a "cheat sheet" and violates the honor code.

**Definition of Plagiarism:**

Representing orally or in writing, in any academic exercise or assignment, the words, ideas, or works of another as one's own without proper acknowledgement of the source.   
*Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, the following actions:*

1. Submitting material or work, in whole or in part, which has been prepared by another individual or commercial service
2. Directly quoting from a source without the proper citation
3. Paraphrasing or summarizing another person's work without acknowledging the source.

**Consequences of Cheating:**

**1st violation**: discussion with student, parent contact and **zero on assignment**, **academic probation**

Each subsequent violation will result in disciplinary actions ranging from a Saturday school to suspension. Additional Possibilities: student may be released from National Honor Society and or school sports, clubs or other activities.

**Initial here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Informational Sheet

English: Ms. Green

Please complete this page and return by Thursday, January 16th.

**This completed paper is worth a homework grade.**

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| --- | --- |
| Name: |  |
| Course: |  |
| Period: |  |
| Home phone: |  |
| Parent 1  Name: |  |
| Phone Number: |  |
| E-mail address: |  |
| Parent 2  Name: |  |
| Phone Number: |  |
| E-mail address: |  |

Do you participate in any extracurricular school sports/activities/clubs? If so, which ones? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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My signature indicates that I have read and understand the course objectives, policies, and syllabus for English 12, Studies in Composition. My signature serves as permission for Additionally, my signature indicates that I have read and understand the consequences of cheating and / or plagiarizing and confirms my pledge to uphold academic honesty.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Student Name Printed) (Student Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/Guardian Signature)

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(Parent Guardian E-mail)