English I/78; Beneth

Fall Semester, 2011

**Accelerated English I: Syllabus, Schedule of Events and Assorted Queries**

**N.B.: Some works may be switched around and or replaced altogether, subject to their availability and/or other, burning interests we don’t know we have yet.**

**8/30-9/09: Dandelion Wine** (1.5 weeks; Beneth is out Tuesday, 9/06)

***Is everyone’s Happiness Machine different?***

Introduction to course, including this here syllabus

Vocabulary strategies/how to annotate/binder organization

Poems (Mary Oliver’s “The Summer Day,” Elizabeth Bishop’s “In the Waiting Room,” etc.)

TEST

**Writing: 2 papers (in-class writing on Bradbury’s perspective; narrative about family anecdote)**

**9/12-10/14: To Kill a Mockingbird** (1 month +; you are off on 9/28)

 ***What does it really mean to walk around in someone else’s shoes?***

Flannery O’Connor’s short story “Revelation”

Literary terms/Vocabulary from text

Poems: Elizabeth’s Bishop’s “The Filling Station;” Countee Cullen’s “Incident,”; etc.

Truman Capote’s “The Thanksgiving Visitor”

Jamaica Kincaid’s “Girl”

Films: Riding the Rails and To Kill a Mockingbird

TEST

**Writing: 2 papers (“Girl” or “Boy;” place-description)**

10/17-10/21 Beneth’s Greatest Hits: Packet 1 (1 week; you are off 10/20 and 21)

***How does a poem mean? (thanks to John Ciardi)***

Review literary terms

Poetry Packet

Memorization/recitation

TEST (?)

**Writing: Your own place-poem**

10/24-11/11: **Romeo and Juliet** (3 weeks; *End of marking period=10/28; you are off 11/10 and 11)*

***“What is love?” (thanks to Conner Elliot-Knaggs)***

Elements of Elizabethan theater

More review of literary terms

Poems: Shakespearean sonnets

Film: Gnomeo and Juliet (OK, and possibly Romeo and Juliet as well)

TEST

**Writing: “Get a life, Romeo and Juliet!”(persuasive essay)**

11/14-11/22: **Night and the Holocaust**

***What does it mean to be human?***

Holocaust background; brief research assignment

Short pieces (Nazi memorandum; “The Key Game;” etc.)

Poems: “Written in Pencil…;” “Song about a Herring;” etc.

Films: Europa, Europa and/or Life is Beautiful

TEST

**Writing: Film Review**

11/23-11/28 (Monday): The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian (Thanksgiving vacation reading/packet)

***What can readers learn from Junior?***

Cartoon assignment

Coeur D’Alene mythology?

Film: Smoke Signals (time permitting)

11/29 (Tuesday)-1/02/2012: **The Odyssey**

 ***What does it mean to be a hero?***

The Homeric epic

Greek mythology

Pandora’s Box

Poems: The Odyssey :-) and various poems on Greek themes

TEST ON 1/03 and 1/04?

**Writing: Response to Literature**

1/05 (Thursday)-1/11/2012 (Wednesday): **Ketchup and Review**

**FINAL EXAMS ARE ON THURSDAY, 1/12 AND FRIDAY, 1/13**