

**A.Y. JACKSON SECONDARY SCHOOL
GRADE 12 UNIVERSITY ENGLISH**

**ENG4U1
COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Overview

This course emphasizes the development of literacy, communication, and critical and creative thinking skills necessary for success in academic and daily life. You will analyze challenging texts from various periods, countries and cultures; interpret and evaluate informational and graphic texts; and create oral, written, and media texts in a variety of forms. An important focus will be on using academic language coherently and confidently, selecting the reading strategies best suited to particular texts and particular purposes for reading, and developing greater control in writing. The course is intended to prepare students for university, college, or the workplace. This course is comprised of four strands: Oral Communication, Reading and Literature Studies, Writing, and Media Studies. PREREQUISITE: GRADE 11 UNIVERSITY ENGLISH

Specifically, there will be an emphasis on close text analysis, review of stylistic and rhetorical devices, writing forms, registers of language, common grammatical errors and editing/proofreading strategies.

This course is based on *The Ontario Curriculum Grades 11 and 12 for English*, published by the Ministry of Education and Training, 2007.

Units of Study

1. Novel Study

This unit focuses on the novel, *Obasan* by Joy Kogawa, and specifically prepares the students for the work they will do in their Culminating Activity. Students will create a thematic media piece, participate in presentations, complete a unit test, and write a literary essay.

2. Shakespeare (Hamlet or King Lear)

In this unit students study and do an in-depth analysis of a Shakespearian tragedy. Through teacher directed classes, discussion and cooperative group work students explore elements of style, plot, character development, and themes. Students will be tested on their knowledge of the play, write a film analysis and a literary essay, and prepare and present oral presentations.

3. Essay Unit

Students will explore a variety of essays, examining the rhetorical and stylistic devices employed by the authors. The unit will culminate in a sight essay test.

4. Modern Play

In this final unit of the course, students will study the dramatic elements of either the *Crucible*, or *A Streetcar Named Desire*, in preparation for the exam.

5. Culminating Activity

This activity involves independent reading, analysis and research on selected novels. The unit is designed to let students demonstrate key knowledge and skills learned during the course. They will participate in literary circles, and produce a major literary essay.

Assessment and Evaluation

A variety of teaching strategies and assessment tools, both formative and summative, will be used in each of the units. Among them will be cooperative group work, close text analysis, class discussion, role-play and teacher directed lessons. Early in each, unit formative assessments and exemplars will prepare students for summative evaluation at the end of the unit of study. Assessment pieces may include writing expositions and narratives, delivering speeches and oral presentations, quizzes, tests, journal responses and creating original media works. Although most assignments will be assessed using rubrics based on the Achievement Chart for English, some assignments may be evaluated holistically.

Course work will account for **70%** of the final mark and will consist of a variety of assignments evaluated in these strands:

Reading and Literature Studies	21%
Writing	21%
Oral Communication	14%
Media Studies	14%

The final **30%** of the mark includes the culminating activity project, 20% and a final exam, 10%.

Extra Help/Contact Information

Students can arrange for extra help with their individual teachers. Extra help is usually given at lunch time. Peer tutoring is also available through the Guidance Department.

To contact the English Office call 416-395-3140, ext. 20090.

English Department Policies and Expectations

1. Academic success is highly dependent upon regular attendance in class. Arriving to class on time with all necessary materials is expected.
2. If for any reason you are absent, you are expected to bring a note of explanation from your parent or legal guardian. This note should be given to your teacher the day you return.
3. If you are absent on the day of a test or written assignment, it is your responsibility to bring a note to your teacher and arrange a “make-up” (Make-up means an opportunity to demonstrate the proficiency of the learning expectations and may not necessarily take the same form as the original test, assignment, etc.).
4. If a legitimate note is not submitted, the student will not have an opportunity to demonstrate proficiency in the expectations. Students must demonstrate that they have attained the overall expectations of the course strands to pass the course
5. If you are absent on the day of a presentation, please call your teacher. Oftentimes, a presentation will proceed if you are absent and you will be assigned a no-mark. A note explaining your absence is expected the day of your return.
6. Students are expected to adhere to deadlines; however, if students are unable to meet a set deadline, they must inform their teacher prior to the due date to negotiate a second deadline.
7. Culminating process deadlines must be adhered to or the student will lose marks.
8. The final culminating essay must be submitted on time or a 10% mark penalty will be applied.
9. ***All Culminating stages must be submitted or the final essay will not be accepted.***
10. Academic Honesty: All work submitted by students must be their own or if they have taken ideas or words from other sources, they must accurately and correctly acknowledge their sources. ***All written assignments must be submitted to turnitin.com and a receipt must accompany the assignment or it will not be accepted.*** Assignments that **do not** meet these criteria will receive a mark of zero.

Use this chart to keep track of your marks and to set goals.

Assignment	Mark
WRITING:	<i>Obasan</i> Essay
	Shakespeare Essay
READING:	<i>Obasan</i> Test
	Shakespeare Unit Spotting Test
	Sight Essay Test
	<i>Lear</i> Seminar Analysis
ORAL:	<i>Obasan</i> Presentations
	Shakespeare Seminar
MEDIA:	<i>Obasan</i> Media Piece
	Film Analysis
	<i>Hamlet</i> Plays or <i>Lear</i> Seminar