

Sports Literature

Instructor Information

Ms. Sinda Fitz
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Phone: 790-6600
Office Hours: 8:00-8:50AM, 12:30-1-45PM

Course Description

People love games. People love competition. It's in our nature. We root for the underdog, battle against evil--real or imagined, challenge our abilities and celebrate our champions. We love to tell stories. We make sense of our world through narrative fiction and non-fiction. Whether we participate in a sport or not, we still derive satisfaction from the stories we see played out around us.

Sports Literature allows us to reflect, analyze and celebrate the role and influence athletics plays in the lives of individuals and our society. Essential questions this course asks students to consider are: How is our culture expressed through the sports we play? How do sports define the way we see ourselves as individuals?

Each week this class will explore cultural themes found in sports through a variety of literary forms. We will respond to the various viewpoints presented keeping in mind the two essential questions. Students are expected to keep a reflection journal covering each of the assigned readings, participate in large and small group discussions, complete several short analytical essays as well as a larger paper at the end of the term. A final test will be given at the end of the course.

Class Expectations

- Respect your neighbor and yourself. Bring your best to class each day, and respect the rights of other students and your teacher to get the most out of every lesson.
- Activities and reading need to be completed on schedule. See me if you are feeling lost or falling behind--I want to see you succeed.
- Work should be done to the best of your ability. Assignments which do not meet required specifications will be returned for correction without a grade. Accommodations will be made for those who need them.
- Music devices and cell phones are seldom used in class. Turn off and store phones and other devices before class starts. Those in sight, or in use, will be confiscated and may be picked up after school.
- Food, gum, and candy are not permitted. Drinks need a screw-top lid to be allowed in class.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarized writing is theft of person's words or ideas; evidence of plagiarism will be met with severe consequences including loss of credit, administrative referral and increased scrutiny regarding all typed work.

Materials:

Please purchase and come to class prepared with:

- a section of your school binder devoted to work for this course
- a composition book or equivalent journal dedicated ONLY to Sports Literature
- pens with blue or black ink
- a flash drive or memory stick

Standards for written work:

All formal essays must be typed, double-spaced, in black ink, 12 pt. Times (or similar) font, in MLA format. Any informal writing assignments, including journals, should be completed in pen. No torn pages or fringed edges will be accepted.

Grades: Grades for the class are weighted by category and distributed as follows.

Class Work	25%
Essay Writing	20%
Projects	20%
Tests and Quizzes	20%
Journal	15%

Attendance:

Hockey champion Wayne Gretzky said, "You miss 100% of the shots you never take." You can't succeed in class if you don't show up. Come to class. You can't succeed in life if you fail to be present.

Students who are late for class are marked tardy. Two tardies equal one absence. Ten tardies (five absences) will lead to an administrative referral. Six or more absences may lead to reduced credit for the course. School related absences will not have be marked against you.

If you miss class, it is your responsibility to make up any work. Late work will not be accepted unless you've discussed it with me **before the due date**. E-mail is an acceptable way to turn in assignments; however, you are responsible for bringing a hard (printed) copy the following day.

****NOTE TO PARENTS**

Some of the course material includes language that may be disturbing or challenging. Please review the information and course content and contact me with any concerns.

I have read and understand the information on this form.

Student name (print) _____ Student signature _____

Parent name (print) _____ Parent signature _____