Honors Intro. to American Literature
-9th Grade English-
Hello!
I am Emily DeRubeis

- English BA
- History Education BS
- Teaching and Curriculum MA
- Specialization in Administration
- All from MSU! Go Green!
- Student Internship - Southfield Lathrup HS
- Fourth year at ABHS!
- Varsity Dance Team Coach
Honors Intro. to American Literature

FIRST SEMESTER
- Short Stories (5 main)
- *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck
- *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak

Ongoing assignments/lessons:
- Writing/Grammar
- Genre
- Reading Comprehension
- Analysis of Literature

SECOND SEMESTER
- Nonfiction
  - SAT Essay
  - “I Have a Dream” by Martin Luther King, Jr.
  - *Night* by Elie Wiesel
- Poetry
- *The Odyssey* by Homer
- *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
What’s different between Honors English and the standard classes?
More in depth analysis and writing

- Close reading skills heightened
- More attention and push towards critical thinking
- Focus on thinking about real world connections
- Develop writing/vocabulary skills

All of these skills are needed in life after school
Focus on presentation skills and discussion

Book Talks
Students will present their findings and thoughts twice per quarter about books they CHOOSE to read.

Socratic Seminars
Student led discussions that focus on critical analysis of texts, in depth questioning, focusing arguments, and learning to agree/disagree with peers.
Cooperative Learning
Working with partners in mini-discussions to focus on small tasks and increase “learning talk”

Scaffolding
Teaching kids to accomplish tasks themselves by “gradually letting them go”

End Goal:
Student confidence in the ability to complete reading, writing, presentation, and critical thinking tasks on their own OR begin on their own with guidance in preparation for college readiness
Aren’t these assignments intimidating for kids?

They’ve never done formal presentations or class discussions...

How are you so confident that my student will be able to achieve that “end goal” you’re so thrilled about?

The first time? Maybe. The goal is to get them comfortable with speaking in front of their peers.

I model what my expectations are and hold realistic achievement goals depending on their skills.

With the implementation of PLC groups, teachers work together regularly.
Thanks!

Any questions?

You can find me at:
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Grading Scale

- Test/Essays: 65%
- Quizzes/Projects/Book Talks: 25%
- Class/Homework: 10%