

**Valley High School**  
**English IV**  
**Instructor: Mrs. Carlson-Tooker**  
**Email: carlson-tookera@wcsdre1.org**  
**Website: carlsontookervhs.weebly.com**

Welcome to English IV for 2017-2018 school year! This course will be challenging for each of you individually. You will read and analyze a variety of literary mediums. You will learn to analyze themes and social applications. You will write analytically about literature that includes both fiction and non-fiction. I encourage each of you to question everything you read and experience, but it is mandatory that you do so respectfully and with consideration of your peers.

**Course Description:**

This is a course pertaining to academic inquiry.

**Course Instruction:**

This course consists of lectures, use of audio and visual media, readings from required text and supplementary reading material, classroom discussions, technology-mediated interactions, student presentations, and small group activities and student inquiry.

**Required Text:**

- Independent Reading Books (these can count as your required book reports)
- Persepolis
- Siddhartha
- Various other articles, texts, short stories

**Required Materials:**

- Laptop
- Laptop charger
- Writing utensils (pens/pencils)
- Lined paper (notebook or loose-leaf)
- Assigned reading materials (books, handouts, packets, etc.)
- Google account (for Google Documents, Calendar, etc.)

**Late Work:**

Late work is annoying! Due dates are reasonably set for this course. If you turn work in late, you get a \*three-day\* window per school policy. Your **MAXIMUM** grade on this work will be a 60%, but that is only if you would have earned a 100% on it had it been turned in on time.

I will grant extensions for emergencies only, but you must contact me individually outside of class time, prior to the day the assignment is due.

**Make-up Policy:**

You are responsible for any and all make-up work you miss due to an absence. School policy will be followed as to the number and label of absences. Quizzes and tests must be made up within one week or the grade will permanently become a zero.

Additionally, if you are home ill and know how to use a phone or a computer, you can check the website, or email me during the school day and get the assignments so you don't fall behind. In order to make up missed work, the absence must be excused. You have the same number of days absent to make up any missed work. Any work assigned before the absence will be collected on the due date or the first day of the student's return. When you return from an absence, it is your responsibility to get make-up work.

### Grading:

Grades are based on a total points system and earned by the student based upon the following percentages:

- 100-90% - A
- 89-80% - B
- 79-70% - C
- 69-60% - D
- < 60% - F

\*To calculate your grade, divide the number points earned by the number of total points in the gradebook.

### Cheating and Plagiarism:

#### Academic Honesty

As a VHS student, it is an expectation that students are honest in all personal and academic endeavors. Academic Honesty requires students' to present work that is their own—by no means is plagiarism of any kind acceptable in any academic setting. In the event of ANY academic dishonesty, a student will receive ZERO credit on an assignment and may be subject to further disciplinary action by teacher, administration, school and/or district.

### STUDENT EXPECTATIONS:

Students will adhere to all of the VHS policies and Weld County School District RE-1's "Code of Conduct" at all times.

#### 1. Achieve:

- Be on time.
- Bring the required materials with you to every class.
- Do what you are asked to do, when you are asked to do it.
- Refer to any and all assignment sheets and rubrics for expectations.

#### 2. Respect:

- Your space and your belongings.
- The space and belongings of others.
- Your ideas and opinions.
- The ideas and opinions of others.

#### 3. Engage:

- Participate (speaking, listening, take notes, etc.) during every class.

- Complete assignments in-full and on-time.
- Help your classmates when they need a hand.
- Speak to the teacher as soon as a problem arises.
- Be present in all class periods.

**Food and Drink Policy:**

In my classroom, you have permission to have food and drink during class. I only ask you please keep in mind the following rules:

- Only snack type foods will be permitted. Eating your lunch during class will not be allowed. (No Pizza Time, etc.)
- No open containers (Canned Soda, Rockstars, etc.). Only drinks with resealable tops are permitted.
- You made a mess? You clean it up!
- Please refrain from eating any food during class discussions, presentations, etc. Be Respectful!
- **If at any time your food or drink becomes a disruption to the learning environment I reserve the right to ask you to put/throw it away!**

**Colorado State Academic Standards: Reading, Writing, and Communicating (12<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Oral Expression and Listening | 1 Effective speaking in formal and informal settings requires appropriate use of methods and audience awareness<br>.<br>2 Effective collaborative groups accomplish goals<br>.  |
| 2. Reading for All Purposes      | 1 Literary criticism of complex texts requires the use of analysis, interpretive, and evaluative strategies<br>.<br>2 Interpreting and evaluating complex informational texts require the understanding of rhetoric, critical reading, and analysis skills<br>.   |
| 3. Writing and Composition       | 1 Style, detail, expressive language, and genre create a well-crafted statement directed at an intended audience and purpose<br>.<br>2 Ideas, evidence, structure, and style create persuasive, academic, and technical texts for particular audiences and specific purposes<br>.<br>3 Standard English conventions effectively communicate to targeted audiences and purposes<br>. |
| 4. Research and Reasoning        | 1 Independent research designs articulate and defend information, conclusions, and solutions that address specific contexts and purposes<br>.<br>2 Logical arguments distinguish facts from opinions; and evidence defines reasoned judgment<br>.   |

Ultimately, I reserve the right to modify any part of these classroom expectations at any time. You are also a member of this class, so if there is anything that needs to be added or addressed, please come talk to me. I would love to hear your input. Welcome to my class, I look forward to working with you this year!!

## **ENG 4 - Semester 1**

### **Major Due Dates**

\*Note: Each unit will also have a short multiple choice exam over the key terms and concepts from the unit. These are not content-based—instead, they will put the analytical skills taught in the unit to the test.

### **American Dream ... Today Persuasive 5 Paragraph Essay:**

Students will write a 5 paragraph persuasive essay analyzing and arguing the current state of society's modern American Dream.

**Due: Week of September 11**

### **Independent Reading Project—Memory String:**

Students will, based on a novel of their choosing, create a memory string visual representation analyzing the characters, setting, conflict, climax and conclusion of the novel. Using supporting evidence of important events, students will recap the key elements of the novel. Over the course of the second quarter, students will have time inside of class (though time outside of class will also be required) to complete the novel and create the memory string.

**Due: Week of October 3**

### **Slam Poetry Final:**

Students will write and perform a 2-3 minute slam poetry poem.

**Due: Week of October 10**

### **Advertisement Presentation:**

After analyzing ethos, pathos, logos in a variety of advertisements, students will create their own advertisements and present them to the class.

**Due: Week of November 14**

### **Independent Reading Project—5 minute oral report:**

Students will read a novel of their choosing and prepare a 5 minute oral report giving a brief summary of the plot, describing the personality of main characters, identifying the conflict and explaining the resolution.

**Due: Week of November 28**

**Persepolis Final:**

Students will write a multi-paragraph timed writing essay in class analyzing religious allusions and consecutive themes based on Persepolis.

**Due: December 5**

**This page MUST be signed and submitted back to Mrs. Carlson by Friday, August 11, 2017.**

**Directions:** Please ask your VHS student to walk you through the following programs or documents that will be used for Mrs. Carlson's class:

- Class Weebly page: [www.carlsonvhs.weebly.com](http://www.carlsonvhs.weebly.com)
- Google Classroom: must have a code to join
- Class syllabus: saved in Google Drive

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ HOUR: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PREFERRED CONTACT: Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the class syllabus and agree to these terms for the remainder of the school year.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_