

Syllabus



Course Description

In 12th Grade English, Part 1, you will explore the course theme of **Comedy in Culture**.

The course is divided into three units, consisting of four modules in Units 1 and 2 and 7 modules in Unit 3. The first unit, (Modules 1-4), **What is a Comedy?** focuses on the science of humor, humor through the ages, analyzing humor in texts, and the role of irony in humor. The second unit, (Modules 5-8) is called **Satire**.

This unit explores satire literary terminology, understanding an author's purpose, analyzing a variety of texts looking for satire, and writing a media literacy and satire comedy review. Unit three (Modules 9-15) **Comedy and Satire in Shakespeare** focuses on how to read a comedic play (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*), examining characterization, theme, conflict, language, and plot. Students will end this unit with a writing project on humor. There will be a mid-course quiz at the end of Module 4 and Module 8. Module 16 is the module for the final exam.

The structure of each module in the course includes:

three main sections, referred to as "lessons" so students can monitor their time. They are as follows:

1. **Literacy Skills and Strategies:** This is where students will learn how to be expert readers, writers, and thinkers around literature.
2. **Written Assignments:** Most of the written assignments for submission will be in this section. Sometimes an assignment is out of order, simply because it needs to occur before the next concept is taught. This section might also include a quiz or assignment.
3. **English Skill Enrichment Focus:** These will be vocabulary, reading fluency, writing fluency, grammar, sentence structure, etc. activities for students to learn English skills. These skill assignments are a fun way to meet the standards for English and students often have choices about what they complete and how.

Prerequisite

English 11, Part 1 and English 11, Part 2

Course Materials

The main required text for this course is
A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare.

Students should choose one of these humorous novels to read as their Anchor Text.

1. *The Importance of Being Earnest*
by Oscar Wilde
2. *Pride and Prejudice*
by Jane Austen

Students should purchase their Anchor Text novel as soon as possible because they will begin with it. Then they will read *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in Unit 3, Modules 9-15.



Course Learning Outcomes

As students complete the course assignments, they will increase their knowledge, improve 21st-century skills, and develop an attribute.



Knowledge: English 12, Part 1

In this course, *knowledge* refers to the subject matter and content students will learn while completing the readings, practices, quizzes, and assignments.

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- identify how writers use humor to reveal human truths;
- analyze ways Shakespeare uses humor to make his ideas known about human behavior;
- describe how comedy has been used as a means of social commentary throughout history;
- differentiate between comedy and satire and apply these principles to Shakespeare and a humor novel; and
- write an essay using academic writing, language, and tone.



21st Century Skill: Creativity: Creative Production & Innovation

The 21st-century skill

you will be focusing on for this semester is

Creativity: Creative Production & Innovation. There are four criteria students will master with this skill: persistence, vision, flexibility, and cognitive toolbox.



Attribute: Optimism

The **attribute** you will focus on in this course is **Optimism**. There are various examples drawn from literature and things to think about to help students think of ways to increase their optimism.



Grading and Assignments

The letter grade in this course will be based on these assignments and exams.

Grading Table

Assignment or Exam	Grading	Percent of Total Grade
Skill Assignments (Focus: Creative Production & Innovation)	Teacher-graded	25%
Written Assignments + English Skill Enrichment Assignments	Teacher-graded + Complete/Incomplete	30%
Mid-Course Quiz	Computer-graded	5%
Note-Taking Guide x 3 (1 for each unit) + MND Reading Journal	Complete/Incomplete	30%
Final Exam	Computer-graded	10%

Assignments

The Overview pages of each module outline exactly what is due in each module. Do not skip these overview pages as they are very helpful.

This is an English course so there are a variety of assignments. There is a lot of thinking and processing required by students to personalize this course and get the most out of it. Most of the assignments require students to think through what they are reading or learning and fill in graphic organizers with specific questions about the content. Students may download the graphic organizer to their Google Drive or as a Word document and save it, and then submit it when it is due.

There are some assignments in the form of a short quiz. All of these are open notes, open books. They relate to the material on that page of the module.

There are several writing assignments where students communicate their knowledge in a variety of formats: visual, pictures, PowerPoint presentations, written essays, summaries, responses, etc. Students will have the opportunity to submit assignments in a variety of ways. There are always choices to make in the assignments.

There is also an English Skill Enrichment Focus at the end of each module. These lessons will focus on specific English skills such as vocabulary, reading fluency, writing fluency, grammar, sentence structure, etc. These skill assignments are a fun way to meet the standards for English and students often have choices about what they complete and how.

Content Guides

The Content Guides require students to take notes on specific questions and processes where prompted in the modules. These notes should be downloaded and kept on the student's computer so they can be filled in where asked, in the modules, and then submitted at the end of each unit. Students will be prompted when to take notes. Many course standards are met with the Note-Taking Guides and yet there is still room for students to add notes they choose to add which will be helpful to them. Content Guides will be submitted at the end of Modules 5, 10, and 15.

Interactives and Self-checks

There are interactives or self-checks on nearly every page. They are great reviews and the final exam questions come from these interactives and self-checks. These are not graded but they should also not be skipped. They're a fun way to interact with the content and remember the concepts taught.

Midcourse Quiz

This computer-graded quiz will cover the material up to the mid-course quiz. The questions on the midcourse quiz will be similar in format to the questions on the final exam.

Final Exam

This exam consists of 30 questions. The exam is closed book and closed notes.

Course Grade

The letter grade will be calculated according to these percentages.

Percent to Letter Grade Calculation	
A	100%–93%
A–	<93%–90%
B+	<90%–87%
B	<87%–83%
B–	<83%–80%
C+	<80%–77%
C	<77%–73%
C–	<73%–70%
D+	<70%–67%
D	<67%–63%
D–	<63%–60%
F (fail)	<60%–0%