

**English 11**  
**Mr. Blodgett**  
**jblodge@schools.nyc.gov**

**Course Description:** Grade 11 English meets daily in order to guarantee that students are prepared to pass the English Regents and progress toward the goal of college-readiness. Reading comprehension, with strong emphasis on inferential reading—"reading between the lines"—and essay writing will be practiced on a near-daily basis. Essay writing will include literary explication and a variety of non-fiction forms: informational, persuasive, personal, and memoir. Short-answer quizzes will accompany most readings.

**Course Objectives:** Students will think analytically, contribute to class discussions with prior and developed knowledge, and improve their ability to write clear, well-organized essays. The pleasure of reading and sharing ideas is considered a prevailing concern of the class, as is the expectation that literature is fundamental to understanding the meaning of being human.

**Types of Source Reading:** Students will focus on informational texts in the form of current events news and feature articles, self-contained essays on various topics of human and intellectual interest, and a wide selection of relevant poetry and short fiction.

**Relevant Texts:** The anthology *American Short Stories* (Perfection Learning) will be used extensively. Individual stories (handouts) will be used on a regular basis from the following list:

**British and European Authors**

Anton Chekhov: "Grief," "The Grasshopper," "Agafya,"; D.H. Lawrence: "The Shadow in the Rose Garden," "The Rocking Horse Winner," "The Prussian Officer"; Haruki Murakami: "The Second Bakery Attack," "Tony Takitani"; Virginia Woolf: "The Widow and the Parrot"; Isaac Babel: "You Must Know Everything"; Frank O'Connor: "Guests of the Nation," "My Oedipus Complex"; Kazuo Ishiguro: "A Family Supper"; Edna O'Brien: "The Doll"

**American Authors**

Mary Gordon: "Mrs. Cassidy's Last Year," "Separation"; Flannery O'Connor: "A Good Man Is Hard to Find"; Louise Erdrich: "The Red Convertible"; Ernest J. Gaines: "The Sky is Gray"; Joyce Carol Oates: "Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?"; William Faulkner: "A Rose for Emily," "Barn Burning"; Miranda July: "Birthmark," "Roy Spivey"; Nathaniel Hawthorne: "The Birthmark," "Young Goodman Brown"; Gina Berricault: "The Stone Boy"; Ernest Hemingway: "Indian Camp," "A Day's Wait," et al.; David Bezmozgis: "The Second Strongest Man"; Stephen Crane: "The Bride Comes to Yellow Sky"; David Benioff: "The Barefoot Girl in Clover"; Ray Bradbury: "All Summer in a Day"; Robert Silverberg: "Passengers"; Sherwood Anderson: "The Untold Lie"

**Novellas/Story Collections**

*The Nick Adams Stories* (Ernest Hemingway), *Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption* and *The Body* (Stephen King), *Ethan Frome* (Edith Wharton), *The Call of the Wild* (Jack London), *Always Outnumbered, Always Outgunned* (Walter Mosley), *City of Thieves* (David Benioff)

**Classroom Expectations/Grading**

--All school policies for academic integrity and plagiarism apply to this course. This primarily means that if you say you wrote it, you really did. If evidence shows you did not write the paper, all school policies and consequences apply.

- Standard grading percentages apply (e.g., 100% = A, 89-80% = B; 79-70% = C, and so on).
- Final grade takes into consideration performance, progress, and contribution to the class.
- Late work will be accepted within reason but the grade reduced accordingly: for each day it is late a letter grade drop will be assessed, unless there is an excuse.

Make-up Work: Make-up work will only be given with an excused absence.

Students should consult other students and [Jupitergrades.com](http://Jupitergrades.com) for missing assignments.

- Be on time.
- Be prepared.
- Be polite by speaking at the appropriate time and using the appropriate tone.
- Follow teacher directions from the start to the finish of class.