## English 12 Preview Riverside Secondary

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"Literature is where I go to explore the highest and lowest places in human society and in the human spirit, where I hope to find not absolute truth but the truth of the tale, of the imagination and of the heart."  
- Salman Rushdie

**Curriculum:**

Language is fundamental to thinking learning, and communicating in all cultures. The skilled use of language is associated with many opportunities in life, including further education, work, and social interaction. As students come to understand and use language more fully, they are able to enjoy the benefits and pleasures of language in all its forms –from reading and writing, to literature, theatre, public speaking, film, and other media. The English 12 curriculum provides students with the opportunity to study literary and informational (including technical) communications, and the mass media and thereby experience the power of language. Students are presented with a window into the past, a complex portrayal of the present, and questions about the future. They also come to understand language as a human system of communication: dynamic and evolving, but also systematic and governed by rules.

Source: BC Ministry of Educations Website

Upon completion of the semester, students will be able:

* To develop strategies to communicate effectively in written, spoken and visual forms
* To interpret details and draw conclusions about information presented in various forms
* To develop an understanding of the main ideas, events and themes of novels, stories, poetry
* To reinforce literary techniques, elements of literature, figurative speech
* To develop organization strategies for information and details through essays and presentations
* To expand on the mechanics of writing such as grammar, punctuation, spelling
* To develop strategies to appraise work (student’s own and others)
* To create a variety of personal, literary, and technical communications including personal essays and blog posts
* To expand a variety of writing styles such as persuasive, narrative and expository
* To analyze and assess the impact of specific techniques and designs by the media

**Classroom**

Students are expected to demonstrate respect, acceptance and dignity for each other. The learning environment should be comfortable for everyone and students must accept one another as unique and individual learners. Students are expected to be:

* Punctual and in the classroom at the designated time
* Prepared with all the necessary materials (device and/or paper, course materials etc.)
* Productive and use their class time affectively
* Respectful of the physical environment of the classroom (writing on desks, garbage, food waste)

**Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is to take or use the thoughts, writings, or inventions of another and present them as your own. The following are examples of academic dishonesty or plagiarism:

* Failure to cite or document quoted or paraphrased material from another source
* Submitting as one’s original work essays, presentations, or assignments which were purchased or otherwise acquired from another source
* Cheating on an examination by either sharing material, use of unauthorized course notes or any aids not approved by the teacher
* Submitting identical or virtually identical assignments unless authorized by the teacher.

## Source: SFU Academic Dishonesty Policy

**Course Structure** (more detailed outcomes and objectives will be provided with each unit):

* Short Stories: a selection of classic and modern stories
* Film Study: The Shawshank Redemption
* Novel: Margaret Atwood – Oryx and Crake, or an Independent Novel Unit
* Drama: The Crucible or Good Night Desdemona (if time)
* Poetry: Looking at a variety of poems – form, structure, type, devices, theme
* Writing process: theme statement, paragraph, essay (descriptive, narrative, literary)
* Grammar/vocabulary – short activities interspersed throughout the semester
* Rhetoric – exploring various stylistic and rhetorical techniques
* Poetry Slam – The Open Mic Festival

**Evaluation:**

1. Your final mark for English 12 will be a combination of your school mark (60%) and of your provincial exam mark (40%). You will receive your final mark from the Ministry of Education.
2. Your school mark will be based on summative evaluation: writing assignments, projects, blog posts, the occasional test (45%) - and formative assessment: marked seminar discussions, marked discussion questions (15%).

Riverside does not have formal tutorial time built into the schedule; however, I am available most lunches and after school each day. Please communicate with me about any concerns you may be having, and I will do my best to accommodate your learning needs. I am looking forward to this semester and to working with all of you!

Kathy Shong