Course Description
Language Arts 12 is your final Language Arts class. The goal of enrollment in this course is to polish your communication skills, both written and oral, so that you can continue your life-long education. This continued education might take the form of workplace learning, or you may choose to continue formal training in preparation for a career. An equally important goal of this course is to be adequately prepared for upcoming exams such as: ACT, SAT, Accuplacer.

Learning Path
We will use the West Virginia State Content Standards (CSOs) to guide our learning. You can find a complete list of the CSOs for Language Arts 12 at this web link: http://wvde.state.wv.us/csos/. To make sure you know each of the content standards we will use both our text book, which is Literature by Glencoe McGraw-Hill, and additional resources.

Some Activities we’ll engage in This Year
- Reading and responding to a variety of literature including: novels, short stories, poems, plays, and non fiction prose.
- Writing multi-genre research papers
- Creating project, productions, and skits.
- Writing (formal and information)
- Completing a senior project.

How Students Earn Grades
I grade on a total points possible basis. That means that not all assignments are worth 100 points. Some may be worth more, and some worth less. At the end of the grading period I will add all the points you earned, and divide that number by the total number of points it was possible for you to earn. This will give me your average. You can earn points through a combination of:
- Daily work and classroom participation
- Oral participation
- Journal
- Projects
- Writing assignments (formal and informal)
- Homework
- Group effort

Tardiness and Absences
Being tardy to class and absent from school has a negative effect on your grade. It is important for you to be in school every day, and for you to be on time to class each day. Because of this I will incorporate a weekly participation grade into this class. Each day of the week it will be possible for you to earn 30 points for participation. If you are in class, on time, and stay focused and working during class, you will automatically be given 30 participation points per day. If you are tardy to class you will lose 15 of the 30 possible daily participation points. If you are absent for the day the type of absence you have will determine your loss. If you have an excused absence (you bring me the yellow slip with the type of excuse written on it by your first period teacher) then you will not be penalized for the day’s participation. If the absence is unexcused (meaning you use all 5 home notes or you simply forget to get a yellow slip from your first period teacher, or have lost your yellow slip) you will receive a zero (0) for that day’s participation points. If you come to class without homework, or otherwise unprepared to contribute to the learning of the group I will decide how many of the daily points you earn. Unprepared ness for class results in low daily points grades.

Make up Work
On days when you are absent you are expected to make up all assignments. This includes any type of absence: excused, doctor’s excuse, home note, unexcused, school activity excused. It is your responsibility to see me and ask for missing work. Make sure to see me, and not a classmate, who may
forget what we did on the previous day. You have 1 day to make up work for each day absent. If you missed 3 days then all makeup work is due in 3 days. No exceptions to this will be made.

Late Work
Late work is work that either did not get turned in on the original due date (and you were in class that day) or work that did not get turned in during your make up work period for absences. **Make up work turned in during the make up period does not count as late work.** I will conditionally accept 3 late work assignments from you during the semester. I will give you 3 late work coupons. You may turn in any assignment late, as long as you have a coupon to attach to it. Once you have used all of your late work coupons I will no longer accept late work at any time for any reason. I will not replace these coupons. If you lose them or throw them away I will not issue replacements. You should understand that using a late work coupon does not mean the following things:
- Late work coupons do not mean you don’t have to do the assignment at all. If you don’t do the assignment you will receive a grade of zero for the assignment.
- Late work coupons do not mean you get full credit for the late assignment. If you must use a late work coupon to turn in an assignment you will receive a reduction of grade equal to 1 letter for each day that the assignment is late.

Student Behavior
Since you are a senior I expect, and will only accept, adult behavior. That means that everyone is treated with respect. In this class we never use “put downs” even if it’s meant as a joke. No one should engage in behavior that makes another person in the room feel belittled. I expect you to be in class on time each day, to have your materials with you every day, and be ready to participate. Make note of the seating arrangement here. If you feel that sitting around tables will increase the likelihood of your talking inappropriately to your neighbor, I suggest that you find a new neighbor immediately. I do not tolerate inappropriate talking i.e., talking when I am, or when someone is making a presentation.

Materials
For this class you will need to have with you each day:
- Text book
- Composition book for a journal (no other type will be acceptable)
- 3-ring notebook or some other method of collecting and organizing your work. All work should be kept for the entire year.
- Writing utensil of your choice (not neon colors)
- Agenda

Major Works We Will Study
- Beowulf
- The Canterbury Tales
- Hamlet
- October Skies
- The Hobbit
- The Coffin Quilt
- Storming Heaven
- Arthurian legends
- Speak

Writing Genres We Will Work With
- Narrative
- Persuasive
- Expository
- Argumentative
- Extended Definitions

Projects and Special Features:
- Mead Hall Day
- Multi-Genre Research project into local history
- Canterbury Characters Impersonation
- Renaissance Faire
- Senior Project