

English III Course Syllabus  
Sherry O'Sullivan  
Wayne School of Engineering

Instructor Contact Information:

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Office Hours: 10:00am-10:30am or after 4:30pm Monday - Thursday (all by appointment).

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**Course Description**

This course allows students to refine mastered grammatical and critical thinking skills in the development of critical analyses, expository essays, and personal narratives through the study of American literature. Emphasis is placed on focusing vocabulary with SAT word development, reading comprehension, and the completion of a grade level project. Although some lecture and organized note-taking is necessary to fully present specific ideas and thoughts, this course will be structured around discussion and collaborative work. Students are expected to have an opinion and to express that knowledge in a respectful, mindful manner.

**Course Novel:** *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls.

(This can be obtained on [thriftbooks.com](http://thriftbooks.com) with free shipping and low prices)

Novels are chosen based on approved reading lists, critical thinking challenges and the possibilities of extrapolating mindful awareness. If there are any objections to content, another choice will be provided. By signing below, you and your parents have read the syllabus and consent to using *The Glass Castle* as our classroom novel.

**\*\*Parental signature:**

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**Personal Policies / Classroom Rules**

1. **Students** are responsible for making up any work within the five day make-up period. ***Be sure to ask a classmate for missed notes and determine missed assignments the first day back in class.*** School policy gives 5 days (reasonable time) to make up work after *excused* absences *unless* the task is a regular weekly task like vocabulary or a previously announced due date (**then it is due on the day you return**). *Due notice* of zeros is covered by a progress report every 3 weeks to take home to parents and through awareness of the 5 day policy. Late tasks will be penalized 5-10 points per day, for up to 3 days, depending on the nature of the assignment. Then, a zero will be given.
2. No item, at any time, may be thrown in the classroom. Dissenters will be expected to properly sweep the room and dispose of any gathered debris.
3. Electronic devices are **not** allowed use in the classroom without permission or prior arrangements. Never assume a classmate is *getting away* with usage while you are

not as there are often circumstances outside that understanding. **Only one warning will be given before students are expected to turn over their device.**

4. I do **NOT** accept emailed assignments, papers, or homework without prior permission. These should be turned in as hard copies. Tasks are due by 4:30 on the due date unless otherwise specified.
5. Rudeness is not tolerated. Do not speak when others are speaking. Consider that their question or concern may also be yours.
6. **Student directed teaching:** This is a process where students direct the questioning and class discussion with completed assignments. Everyone will do this over the course.
7. No food or drinks (except bottled water with a screw-on lid) in the classroom.
8. Take notes. If something goes on the board, you will likely see it again. Also, hang on to any graded assignments until report cards come out. They may be kept in the class return bin as well.
9. Be comfortable where you are but expect to move frequently. I constantly shift students over the course of the semester.
10. Bring a book. If all other tasks are complete, you will be expected to read. **No** gaming.
11. **Plagiarism is prohibited. Cheating is unacceptable.**

### **Class Project**

This project must be completed by each student according to the due dates assigned and the criteria requested. English III looks at a global issue as the focus of the project. Students must also complete 30 volunteer hours with the written work. The volunteer hours should be relatable to your topic. Required paperwork can be found on the school website under students: grade-level projects. **This year's Junior Expo is March 5.** All required work and a comprehensive portfolio will be completed before this date. If a class project is not completed and presented, students will NOT be advanced to the next grade level homeroom, nor be able to participate in any sports or extracurricular activities.

### **Class Wish List:**

paper towels  
tissues  
copy paper