

**Charlie Appleby**

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## **War and Human Nature**

What is it good for?

The Road to Success is Always Under Construction

**You are responsible for the information detailed in this syllabus. Put this someplace safe and available to use when needed. The calendar is subject to change.**

**War and Human Nature** will ask the questions: why do we fight wars? What does it do to the human race? How are soldiers, veterans, and loved ones affected by war? We will read several texts and watch *parts* of movies designed to study the literature of war, and question our place in the world because of war.

### War and Human Nature Scope and Sequence

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

Great Writing Assignment

“War and Human Nature” (informational reading)

Class Discussion

Words of war

Presentation

*Last of the Mohicans*

Essay test

*Red Badge of Courage*

Theme paper (MLA)

Medal of Honor

*All Quiet on the Western Front*

War Journals

*Hiroshima*

Magazine (research APA style)

Art

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

*Night*

“I was Only Following Orders” Informational

Socratic Seminar

*Times of Change*

Vietnam research

Should we have gone into Vietnam? (Argument paper MLA)

Songs of war

*The Things They Carried*

Narrative Story

*Inferno* (Parts)

Contrapasso

Korea

Allegory

MASH

Terrorism

Informational Reading

### **Reading in Class**

There will be a heavy reading load this semester. While some time will be given in class to read, much of class time will be spent discussing and completing assignments. Expect reading homework almost every night.

### **Socratic Seminars**

This class will heavily rely on discussion in class. We will hold several Socratic Seminars. These will require you to come to class prepared with talking points about what we have been reading or discussing in class. Please see the attached handout about Socratic Seminars.

### **Movies**

We will view several videos and movies. If you miss a class where we are viewing a movie it will be up to you to come in and watch what you missed on your own time. Anything that we watch I consider important and will be a part of the tested curriculum.

### **Tests**

There will be tests and quizzes in this class. While I want to make sure that you understand the plot and characters in the novels we read, only about half of each quiz or test will be asking those questions. At least half of each test or quiz will be looking for an understanding of theme. What is the author saying about human nature, about life? We will also look in depth into the use of symbols in war novels.

### **Semester Final**

While we will not have a comprehensive quarter test, there will be a semester final that will cover all that we read, watch and discuss in the class. I recommend that you have a separate folder or binder for your **War and Human Nature** materials and that you keep everything for the entire semester. That includes all handouts, tests, quizzes and assignments whether they have been graded or not.

### **SSR**

Each quarter you will chose 1 novel to read on your own. The first quarter you need to choose a book that has a war story or backstory (see me if you are not sure that your choice works) and the second quarter choose a novel on a theme that we have discussed through the first quarter, i.e. Comradeship, Glory and Honor, **Horror**, Patriotism, Pity, Sacrifice, Duty, Loss, Futility, Death, Courage. The book need not necessarily be about war or have war in it.

Every early out will also be SSR days for the class. This means that you must bring your book and read through the period. Each SSR period is worth 10 points in the grade book and can be

made up at home if you are absent. You must only bring a note saying that you read for ½ hour signed by a parent, guardian, or teacher.

### **Use of Technology**

I am a huge proponent of the school's cell phone use policy. I have witnessed the good that can come from the ability to access information, or to communicate with parents. That being said, if I believe that you are abusing the use of the cell phone I will take it and you can retrieve it at the end of the period. If it happens twice you can retrieve it at the end of the day, the third time the phone goes to the office, and you will have to deal with them to retrieve it. Abuse includes playing games or texting during lectures, movies, discussions, or presentations or viewing inappropriate sites or pictures at anytime.

## Parent Permission and Signatory Section

It is very important to me that parents and guardians know what is being taught in the classroom. Please read the list above and make sure that you know what your son or daughter is reading and watching. If you have any questions about the material don't hesitate to contact me, If you are uncomfortable with any of the above listed books or movies, I will give your student an alternate assignment. Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

I also ask for your support with my policies. Please read the syllabus and I am available if there are any questions at [charliea@bigfork.k12.mt.us](mailto:charliea@bigfork.k12.mt.us), or 406-837-7420 x242 Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

I wholeheartedly believe that tardiness is unacceptable. This being said I will keep track of those tardies as the school year progresses. If I must, I will keep your son or daughter after school to make up time lost for being late. 5 tardies = one hour after school or before school with Mrs. Shanks or myself. Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Finally, I also think it is important to stay in touch with parents during the school year, not only when problems arise, but to make sure problems do not arise. If you would like to be a part of my E-Mail list, please put it on the line below. It is also important that you know your son or daughter's PIN number for checking the PASS system and his or her My Big Campus login information.

This piece of paper is the first assignment of the year. It is due by Friday of the first week of the semester.

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Parent or Guardian Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Second Parent Name (If Applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Second Parent Signature (If Applicable)

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Parent or Guardian E-Mail

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Second Parent E-Mail (If Applicable)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date