English 12acp red Amended Syllabus Three

Mr. McCullough Rm. 215

“What is this quintessence of dust?”

William Shakespeare

11/6 L-Z Read Act I of William Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*.

A-K Same as above. By the end of class submit your study notes.

11/12 A-K Read Act II of *Hamlet*.

DE7: (perturbation) Poor Hamlet has a lot on his mind. Which seems the most burdensome? Why? As ever, be sure to support your claims with specific evidence from the text.

L-Z Same as above. By the start of class submit DE7 as an attachment to an email.

Submit your study notes by the end of class.

11/13 L-Z Read Act III of *Hamlet*.

A-K Same as above. Submit your study notes by the end of class.

11/18 A-Z Read Act IV of *Hamlet*.

11/19 A-K Read Act V of *Hamlet*.

L-Z Same as above. Submit your study notes by the end of class.

11/20 L-Z Today we’ll continue our study of *Hamlet*.

DE8: (augury) “We defy augury. There’s a special providence in the fall of a sparrow. If it be now, ‘tis not to come. If it be not to come, it will be now. If it be now, yet it will come. The readiness is all.” Explain.

A-K Same as above. By the start of class submit DE8 as an attachment to an email. Submit your study notes by the end of class.

11/24 L-Z More *Hamlet*.

A-K Same as above. Submit your study notes by the end of class.

11/25 A-Z Today we’ll conclude our study of *Hamlet*.

12/3 A-K In class we’ll read and discuss Margaret Atwood’s “Happy Endings.”

L-Z Read Atwood’s “Happy Endings,” and submit your study notes by the end of class.

12/4 L-Z Read Stephen Crane’s “The Open Boat.”

DE9: (ontology) “When it occurs to a man that nature does not regard him as important, and that she feels she would not maim the universe by disposing of him, he at first wishes to throw bricks at the temple, and he hates deeply the fact that there are no bricks and no temples.” Explain.

A-K Same as above. Before the start of class, submit DE9 as an attachment to an email. Submit your study notes by the end of class.

12/9 A-Z Read Philip Larkin’s “Aubade,” Robert Herrick’s “To the Virgins…” Dylan

Thomas’s “Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night,” Mary Oliver’s “In Blackwater Woods,” Derek Mahon’s “Everything is Going To Be All Right,” and T.S. Eliot’s “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock.”

DE10: (ephemeral) Today’s poems, open topic.

12/10 A-K Paper #2: With mixed results, characters we’ve studied in the last several weeks--

and the speakers of poems--have tried to come to terms with their mortality. Concentrating on our readings back to (and including) *Hamlet*, please explain human efforts to reconcile the unavoidable reality that life ends. How, do the readings suggest, does one achieve fulfillment in a brief and finite life?

L-Z Read Act 1 of Thornton Wilder’s *Our Town*.

12/11 L-Z Paper #2. (see above)

A-K Read Act 1 of Thornton Wilder’s *Our Town*.

12/16 A-Z Today we’ll continue our study of Act 1 of *Our Town*.

DE11: (microcosm) How is Grover’s Corners our town; how is it any town? How are the characters in the play all of us? Explain.

12/17 A-K Read Act 2 of *Our Town*.

L-Z Same as above. Submit your study notes by the end of class.

12/18 L-Z Read Act 3 of *Our Town*.

A-K Same as above. Submit your study notes by the end of class.