

Application for Sophomore Honors English

This honors class is for those students who enjoy the study of literature and are willing to commit the extra time and effort in a course that will require critical reading of text that span multiple countries and genres. They are challenging in their demands of the reader in style and in content. Students will be expected to keep up with the rigors of the readings, engage in classroom discussion and reflections, and write several analytical essays each quarter.

If you are interested in being considered for this class please fill out the form below, attach it to your portfolio and submit it **NO LATER THAN MARCH 15, 2:40 PM. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!**

Please note: there is a summer reading list and exams on those texts the first week of class. Students who cannot pass the exams with a C- or higher will be transferred to another class. Any act of plagiarism will result in the student being removed from the class.

PORTFOLIO APPLICATION:

Please include all of the following items as part of your application. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.** The cover letter and the critical analysis of the poem are the only two new pieces of writing. The rest should be examples of your best work. Submit all work to Ms. McDonald in room 408 by the due date. Make sure all application pieces are stapled or paper clipped together.

Include:

- Application
- Cover letter (one page describing why you are interested in the course and what your qualifications are)
- A critical analysis of "Poem to be Read at 3am"
- Any piece of writing that demonstrates your ability

Name _____ Cumulative GPA _____

English Courses

Teacher Freshmen Year _____

Grade for Freshmen Year English _____

Instructions for writing the critical analysis essay. Type a focused, coherent response to the following poem. Your response should be critical, not personal, and can be no longer than one and a half pages. Discuss who is the voice of the poem, the title selection, discuss interesting imagery, and the style. Examine the major idea, imagery, or word choice. Do your own work. Use the text of the poem; do not use supplemental information or data. (Poem on back of this paper.)

POEM TO BE READ AT 3 A.M.

Excepting the diner
On the outskirts
The town of Ladora
At 3 A.M.
Was dark but
For my headlights
And up in
One second-story room
A single light
Where someone
Was sick or
Perhaps reading
As I drove past
At seventy
Not thinking
This poem
Is for whoever
Had the light on

By: Donald Justice