

## English IV Midterm Study Guide 2012-13

- *The exam will have three sections: Vocabulary, Literature, and Writing. Please study a little each day so that by test time you are familiar with everything.*
- *I'll warn you in advance that I'm not a big fan of curving exam scores; the grade you earn is the grade you get. Of course I want you to succeed, but giving you a much higher score than you actually earned is not, in my opinion, an accurate measure of success. Take pride in yourself by BEING PREPARED!*
- *All questions on the test will be objective, and your responses will go on a Scantron sheet. Have some #2 pencils sharpened and ready to go!*
  - *You WILL be permitted to write on your copy of the exam as necessary, but ONLY the Scantron sheet will be graded.*

### **Vocabulary**

The following 50 words from past vocabulary units will be covered on the exam. You will need to understand the definition and how the word is used in context, including how it can be modified in order to function as various parts of speech.

accolades	
accrue	
anthology	
atrophied	
avarice	
bequeath	
burnished	
canted	
castigate	
celerity	
cogent	
conducive (to)	

dicey	
empower	
encrypt	
endowed	
engender	
epiphany	
exigent	
expropriated	
harking	
ignominious	
implore	
juggernaut	
laden	
latter	
malign	
mandate	
middling	
mundane	
overtly	
palpable	
parley	
paternalism	
pathos	
pilgrimage	
precipitately	
prolific	
sanguine	

skirmish	
slogged	
spurious	
subside	
sundry	
surrogate	
temporal	
(the prefix) <i>pseudo-</i>	
turbid	
wallow	
wizened	

## Literature

- Review the following course-specific literary terms: frame story, epic, epic hero, exemplum, & allegory. You will also be expected to know literary terms that you should have known before beginning this class (ex: protagonist, antagonist, symbolism, metaphor, imagery, etc.)
- Reviewing your notes for *Beowulf* and *The Canterbury Tales* (The General Prologue, The Pardoner's Prologue & Tale, The Wife of Bath's Prologue & Tale) will be helpful, but be aware that only about 10-15 multiple choice questions will require you to recall facts about these pieces of literature. More weight will be devoted to answering questions about three short passages you'll have to read during the exam period (approx. 10 questions for each passage).

## Writing

This section is tricky this year because the English department exams are on Friday – I can't fairly assess 90 full essays in a single weekend. The usual essay portion of the test will therefore be replaced by 40 multiple-choice questions that will require you to critique a piece of writing. You'll be asked to assess transitions, word choice, punctuation, organization, usage, etc. and identify accurate statements about the writing sample. We will do a brief practice run of this sort of activity during regular class time before the exam.