**Second Semester Language Arts Reading/Project Syllabus**

**for Senior Level, 2013-2014**

Week Twelve: April 7 – April 11. “The Tempest in the Wilderness: The Racialization of Savagery” in *A Different Mirror* by Ronald Takaki. **Annotated MLA assignment.**

Week Thirteen: April 14 – April 18. “The Tempest in the Wilderness…” cont. **Analysis of key ideas in “The Tempest” due Friday 4/18.** Begin *The Tempest*  by William Shakespeare.

Week Fourteen\*(F): April 21 – April 24. *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare. (**Act I, II, III rewrite due April 28th)**

Week Fifteen: April 28 – May 2. Finish *The Tempest*  by William Shakespeare. **(Act IV,V rewrite due May 6th.)**

Week Sixteen\*(M): May 6 – May 9. Begin *Bless Me, Ultima.* Pages 1-70.

Week Seventeen: May 12 – May 16. *Bless Me, Ultima.* Pages 70-142.

Week Eighteen: May 19 – May 23. *Bless Me, Ultima.* Pages 143-236. **Legacy and Philosophy of Life Paper Due May 23 & Final Journal Due May 22.**

Week Nineteen\*(M): May 27 – May 30. *Bless Me, Ultima.* Pages 237-262. **Final Paper Due May 29th.**

Week Twenty\*(Finals): June 2 – June 6. No Class For You! Yay!

**Expectations:**

1. No drama in the classroom! This means that when you are in the classroom, you are here as a student who is ready to learn, participate, and contribute.
2. Come prepared to class: you must have a pen, a journal, a notebook (to take notes), and a folder or binder to store handouts and returned work. If you don’t have these things, I have no pity for you.
3. No food, drink, or gum in the classrooms. No exceptions. Except for the times when there are exceptions.
4. Don’t disrespect me or other students by having a cellphone or ipod out at any time during class. If you do, expect me to take it.

**Grading**:

The main types of assignments I give include weekly reading, class discussions, journal assignments, reading homework, quizzes, presentations, and formal papers. But that’s not important right now; we’ll review assignments when they come up. What’s important is for you to know how teachers use assignments. I use assignments in three ways:

1. Habits: Assignments like journals, homework, and classwork show me your learning habits. These assignments can show that you have good habits which will benefit you throughout life or that you have poor habits that we should change.

\*You can do all the little things to be an effective learner and show that you are organized.

1. Knowledge and Skills: Assignments also show your knowledge and skills: really good answers on HW/CW and during class discussions show that you have increased your knowledge and improved your skills. Poor answers show that you are not increasing your knowledge or improving you skills and show us things to work on changing.

\*You can demonstrate what you know and what you can do. You can keep track of what stays in your brain over the short and long term.

1. Applications: Assignments like formal papers, projects, and presentations show how you combine your habits and your knowledge and your skills to make or do something new or creative. This can be the hardest part, and it also shows whether your habits are effective and whether your knowledge and skills are changing.

\*You can put your habits and your knowledge and skills to work on something creative, original, and big-picture.

**More Grading: In this class you can receive an A, a B, a C, or an F. There are no D’s. This means you must get 70% or higher to pass this class.**

*I use a cumulative grading system and add it all up at the end of the semester. 90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 0-69% = F. Check engrade frequently. It is a simple and quick way to know how you’re doing.*

**Writing Assignments:**

1. **Journals**. Students will keep a journal and write an entry several times a week. Journal assignments will help you build material for other assignments, and they are the best way to become great writers. Journals will be reviewed two or three times per semester and will be factored into your grade. For the love of God, don’t lose your journals
2. **Formal Papers**. You will type several Formal Papers (Essays, Research Papers, Creative Work) over the course of the semester. These are very important and a major part of your grade. Some of these papers will be placed in your digital portfolio; they will require multiple edits and drafts. If you don’t put forth effort, your writing will be lousy and so will your grade.