

Austin-East Magnet High School
English I CP Fall 2016

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INSTRUCTION

Course Description:

Students will build upon the skills developed in the middle school Language Arts. The focus is on close reading of informational and literary texts of appropriate grade level complexity. Based upon their reading, the students will engage in class discussion and written assignments to present analysis to develop an argument, or to write real or imagined narrative. While reading and writing, students will analyze the author's point of view, evidence, assumptions, and style. Within their own writing, students will develop focus, organization, style, and grammatical fluency. Vocabulary study will focus on morphology, etymology, and context, and the words will come from the texts that the students read. Assessment will focus on the students' ability to read appropriately complex text and to cite evidence to support analysis or claims from that text. Language skills will be assessed in the context of their writing, as well as through authentic work-place tasks, such as editing a draft. This course has a state EOC.* Students with qualifying disabilities as documented in the IEP shall be eligible to take the SPED course for additional support.

Curriculum Standards: Please refer to the TNReady Standards at:

<http://www.tn.gov/education/article/english-language-arts-standards>

Materials Required

One composition book (CANNOT be combined with another class)

One folder with prongs and pockets

Plenty of lined paper

Pens and pencils

Highlighter

~ Project supplies as assigned.

Major Works to be Read

- *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee
- *House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- *Sojourner Truth "Ain't I a Woman"*
- *Romeo and Juliet* by Shakespeare
- *Various short stories and informational texts from various sources including, but not limited to the Pearson Literature 9 textbook*

Films for Enrichment: Throughout the course of study, students **may** view films, film-clips, documentaries, or educational programming directly correlated to their study if time permits. All audio-visuals will comply with Knox County guidelines.

Alternate Assignments/Activities

If you do not approve of a specific resource listed in this syllabus, please make your request to me in writing and an alternative assignment and/or materials will be provided. The request should include your name, the child's name, the specific activity/materials in which you do not want your child to participate or to which you do not want them exposed, and the nature of your objection.

ASSESSMENT

Skills Assessment: A variety of techniques will be used to assess student mastery of skills. Assessments will include Formative (weekly vocabulary quiz, three week skills assessment, learning check, etc), Summative (unit exams, timed writing, essays, research papers, etc.), EOC (End of Course Exam), Daily work/Homework, and a Capstone Project that displays a masterful use of all skills taught during the course.

Grading

Your grade is on a percentage-based scale:

EOC – 25%

Daily work/Homework – 15%

Formative Assessments (quizzes, learning checks) – 20%

Summative Assessments (Unit Exams) – 40%

Rubrics will be used for some essays and group assignments. These will be provided to the student when the assignment is given.

The following grading scale will be used for this class:

Knox County Grading Scale

A 100-93%

B 92-85%

C 84-75%

D 74-70%

F 69% and lower

RULES, POLICIES, AND PROCEDURES

Rules

Classroom rules must be followed by every student at all times. The classroom rules are:

- Always follow the teacher's instructions the first time given. No exceptions.
- Talk only when given permission.
- Leave your seat only when given permission.
- Respect yourself and others.

Policies and Procedures

- **Tardies:** To assist in lowering student tardies, AEHS has created an additional warning bell set to ring exactly one minute before classes start. FOCUS policy mandates students are **tardy if not seated** and working on the bellringer when the tardy bell sounds.
- **Restroom:** Students have five (5) minutes between each class during which they **MUST** use the restroom. Students will be allowed only five (5) hall passes to the restroom per semester. Each use will be recorded, so use them only when absolutely necessary.
- **Dismissal:** Students are dismissed from class when the teacher gives them permission to be excused. The bell does not give students permission to exit the classroom. In addition, students are not to stand at the door before the bell rings.
- **Nurse:** There is a nurse on campus; however, her job is to assist students in the building who have pre-diagnosed medical complications. While illness is unforeseeable, visiting the nurse for minor aches and pains is not proper use of her time. Therefore, passes will not be issued to visit the nurse except in extreme cases. For example, if a student is visibly injured or bleeding, vomiting, running a fever, having a severe allergic reaction, etc.
- **Cell phone:** Students are permitted to use cell phones and electronic devices between classes and at lunch. Students are not allowed to have their cell phones out in class. This includes charging, checking the time, using as a calculator, etc.
- **Snacks:** Students may have personal snacks in class after the second week of school. Sharing snacks is not allowed.
- **Trash:** Students must not throw paper or any other trash on the floor or at the trash can. Failure to throw away trash after snacks will result in suspension of privileges.
- **Attendance:** Students must be present in class every day. It is an expectation that students make attendance a priority. When students are absent from class, they miss out on valuable learning opportunities and end up playing "catch-up". The simplest solution: attend class. Students who frequently miss class frequently fail.
- **Quality work:** Student work must be neat and legible. Any work not completed in this manner will be given a 0 until redone. Also, please remember to put your name on your paper.
- **This class is important too:** Students may not work on assignments from other classes while in English unless a specific study time has been set aside BY THE TEACHER giving them permission to do so. Otherwise, any student found working on an assignment from another class will have that assignment confiscated and discarded.
- **Leave stuff alone:** Students are not to use or tamper with any of the technology in the classroom without the teacher's permission.
- **Make up work:** Students have the opportunity to complete any missing assignment. However, IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS MISSED. Students must schedule and come on their own time (after school) to make up work. The teacher WILL NOT constantly remind students to make up work.
- **"Ain't nobody got time for that":** The teacher **WILL NOT** discuss grades or make up work during class. Students must schedule time after class to discuss those items.
- **Late work:** The first late assignment will be forgiven. Additional late assignments will result in a percentage-based reduction. AEHS Policy states work **MAY NOT** be made up after the close of the grading period in which it was assigned. Make-up work done to replace incomplete or missing assignments will be given a grade of no more than 70.
- **Interactive Notebook:** Students must maintain an interactive notebook and folder for English that contains English material only. The maintenance of these items will count as part of the student's grade.

Classroom Behavior Contract

English I has high expectations for student behavior so that all students can successfully complete their graduation requirement. In order to accomplish behavior expectations, students and parents must agree to and sign the following contract.

- Students will be allowed four restroom passes for the semester. Once a student has used all four passes the student will no longer be able to leave the classroom in order to use the restroom.
- Students will not be allowed to have cellphones out during class. Students who do not follow this expectation will have their phones confiscated. Students who refuse to turn over their cell phone will receive an immediate call home to a parent and/or a written referral.
- Any form of bullying, including “roasting, burning, checking, etc.” will not be tolerated in the classroom. Students who do not follow this expectation will be subject to the discipline policy, beginning with a warning and ending, but not limited to a discipline form and a written referral.
- Positive classroom behavior and completion of assignments will be expected at all times. Any behavior that does not contribute to a positive learning environment will result in immediate disciplinary action beginning with a warning and ending, but not limited to a discipline form and a written referral.
- Failure to meet the above expectations or any that are listed in the policies and procedures will result in immediate disciplinary action.

Discipline Policy

1st Offense: Verbal Warning

2rd Offense: Discipline Form

- To be completed by student and signed by parent. Failure to do so will result in an immediate phone call to parents and referral.

4th Offense: Immediate Phone Call to Parent

5th Offense: Immediate Referral.

I agree to the terms of this contract.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____