

English II with Reading Intervention
Austin-East Magnet High School

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COURSE OUTCOME

Course Description

This course seeks to increase students' understanding of the English language through analyzing of texts, discussing ideas, and writing essays. Each lesson is based on TN Ready standards so that students will be well-prepared for the end-of-course exam that is worth 25% of the final grade. Additionally, students will participate in a research based reading intervention program in order to address any existing deficiencies in the areas of decoding and reading comprehension. They will earn a separate grade and credit for their work in the reading intervention.

Tennessee State Curriculum Standards: This year Tennessee public schools will fully implement TN Ready standards, which can be viewed here.

http://www.tn.gov/assets/entities/education/attachments/std_eng_gr_9-10.pdf

INSTRUCTION

Course Goals and Competencies:

- To master all essential skills associated with English II TN Ready standards
- To improve analytical, practical, creative, and research-based thinking skills and to exhibit those thinking skills in writing and speaking
- To score "proficient" or "advanced" on the EOC exam

Materials Needed EVERYDAY:

Writing utensil (pen or pencil)

Required Texts (Resources provided by the school)

Students who check out a textbook will be held financially responsible for any book not returned at the end of the course.

- *Prentice Hall Literature, Grade 10, Common Core Edition*

Possible Major Works to be Read

(All texts are from the Knox County High School Designated List. If a book that is under consideration is not approved, a syllabus addendum will be sent home with a new text.)

House on Mango St., Cisneros

The Tragedy of Julius Caesar Shakespeare

Comprehension will be assessed through discussion, writing, and comprehension quizzes.

Films for Enrichment

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

Julius Caesar (1953)

Appropriate You Tube and
 Teacher's Tube clips

General Overview of Units

- Informational and Persuasive Texts
- Novel Study (*Of Mice & Men*)
- Poetry & Informational Texts
- Drama Study (*Romeo & Juliet*)

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 student's name, the specific activity/material in which you do not want your child to participate or to which you do not want him or her exposed, and the nature of your objection.

ASSESSMENT

Expectations

Student progress will be assessed through quizzes, writing prompts, discussion, projects, and research essays. Assessment schedules will vary with student needs, but the following may be used for each NINE WEEK MODULE:

Reading Comprehension Quizzes

Benchmark Assessment every 3 weeks

4-6 Writing Assignments (informal) per Nine Week Module

1 Extended Writing Assignment (formal) per Nine Week Module

Additional quizzes and other classroom/homework assignments

All assessments are out of a 100 point scale. Assignments are weighted as follows:

Daily Work	15%
Formative Assessments	20%
Summative Assessments	30%
Projects	10%
End of Course (State)	25%

Knox County Grading Scale

A 93-100%	B 85-92%	C 75-84%	D 70-74%	F 0-69 %
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Grading Policy and Parent Communication

Parents and students may access student grades on the Knox County grade book portal. Due to the amount of time required to grade lengthy assignments, grades for some projects/essays may not be posted for one week. All other grades will be entered within one week of turning it in. If a parent or guardian has a question about a grade at ANY TIME, please call or email me and I can update you immediately.

Any student whose grade falls below satisfactory will be placed in an intervention during Power Hour; this is not optional. Students may also stay after school for tutoring.

Makeup Work

If you are absent, you will always have the opportunity to complete any missing assignments. However, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed. When you are absent/need make-up work, please see me at the end of the class period (not while I am teaching) to receive your work.

Remember: Many activities we do in class involves group work, discussions, and small groups. **Attendance is important** so that you receive ALL instruction necessary to do well in the course. If you miss the day before a scheduled test that includes no new instruction, you are still required to take that test or quiz. Make-up quizzes or tests may be taken during Intervention, but will generally NOT be given during class; you may make arrangements to make up the work before or after school.

Late Work & Deadlines

Projects, essays, and all assignments are due at the designated time. Any assignment not turned in on time (not including absences) will receive points deducted in accordance to the weight of the grade. Please utilize the Progress Report to ensure that you have turned all work in. Working on late work during class instruction is NOT acceptable and will result in additional lost points.

Extra Credit

I generally give very few extra credit opportunities in this class. If any extra credit is given, it is due on time. Late extra credit assignments will NOT be accepted. Extra credit assignments are NOT SUBSTITUTIONS for the assigned classwork.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Attendance:

The most important key to success in my class is regular attendance; I expect you to be in class every single day ready to learn. Do not use your class time to visit other teachers or support staff such as Project Grad or guidance. You must be in class, ready to learn and work from bell to bell. Your grade in class is closely related to your attendance. When you miss class, your progress suffers and so does your grade. **PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BE HERE.** ☺

Classroom Rules:

Follow requests and directions the first time given without any discussion.

Be in your seat ready to begin class when the bell rings.

Keep hands, feet, objects, and unnecessary comments to yourself.

Follow all classroom procedures.

School-wide Rules

Be Ready

Be Respectful

Be Responsible

Be Safe

Cell Phones and iPods

Cell phones and iPods should be ***neither seen nor heard*** in the classroom. **You may NOT use your iPod, cell phone, or other electronic devices (with the exception of school issued technology) in my classroom**. Also, you may NOT use your electronic devices or stream music while in the computer lab. In keeping with school policy, I will ask that you surrender any phone or MP3 player that is out. It will be placed in "cell phone jail" until you leave the class.

Food & Drinks

You may bring a snack or a drink to class as long as the classroom stays clean. This is a privilege which will be lost if our room becomes messy or food/trash is left behind.

Bathroom Breaks

Administration has stressed that bathroom breaks during class time are for emergencies only. You may not use the restroom the first fifteen minutes or *before* the last fifteen minutes of school, per school policy. You may NOT use a pass while I am giving direct instruction or while we are reading out loud. Each student may have only three bathroom passes in a semester before I begin calling home and discussing your frequent requests to leave the room with parents/administrators.

Internet Usage All students must have parental consent prior to using Internet at school without consideration for whether in the library or classroom location. **Internet use is for academic purposes only.**

HONOR CODE/PLAGIARISM POLICY**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a form of stealing and academic fraud. Plagiarism is defined by the Harbrace Handbook, 15th edition as “presenting someone else’s ideas, research, or opinion as your own without proper documentation, even if it has been rephrased.” It includes but is not limited to the following: “1) copying verbatim all or part of another’s written work; 2) Using phrases, figures, or illustrations without citing the source; 3) Paraphrasing ideas, conclusions, or research without citing the source; 4) Using all or part of a literary plot, poem or film without attributing the work to its creator.”

Students who are found guilty of plagiarism will have the option of either redoing the assignment within a specified time period and accepting a grade letter drop or taking a zero on the assignment. Parents should be involved in making the decision.

Sharing Work/ Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in class. Individual work should not be shared; the assignment will simply receive a grade of **0**. If more than one person is involved, all parties will receive a grade of **0**. Do not give your work to another student, even if the person was absent, was out of the room for part of the assignment, or missed an assignment. Furthermore, during quizzes and tests, any talking will be considered cheating and will result in a zero. **Grades earned for cheating may NOT be made up and will NOT be dropped.**

TEACHER EXPECTATIONS

Communication: The best way to reach me is by email, kristy.starkswinn@knoxschools.org. I check it several times a day and can respond quickly. You may also call the school phone (594-3792) and leave a message for me. The best way to communicate with me outside of school is via email or Twitter @MrsKBurkley.

Tutoring & Extra Help: I am available to help after school by appointment. If you want or need to stay after, let me know so I can make sure that I stay in the building.

Syllabus Parent Signature: Your First Assignment

Fill out the contact information below and then, after reading through this syllabus with your guardian, sign the "Student" line below and have your guardian sign on the "Guardian" line.

Contact Information

Guardian Contact Number: (home) _____ (cell) _____

Guardian E-mail: _____

I have read through this syllabus and understand what has been stated about the course, grading, classroom, and school policies.

Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

If there is anything I need to know about your student, please write it below.