**Honors English I Syllabus**

Who Am I? And How Do I Know?

Honors English I is an eighteen-week course comprised of eight main components including language, literature, logic, writing, research, media, communication, and informational texts. The class will include extensive outside reading and writing assignments. Students will read and analyze a variety of literary genres.  The emphasis will be on interpreting texts, literally and figuratively, in order to better understand literary technique and style.  Students will also consider specific themes, such as the pursuit of justice and the search for identify, that run throughout the course. It concludes with an End of Course exam and Final Exam.

The following is a breakdown of the course:

Grammar (only as review)

Writing paragraphs and essays

Reading short stories, novels, informational text, and poetry

Analyzing characters and literary elements in works

Oral presentations

Viewing and representing media and technology

Research

*\*The above-mentioned will be taught throughout the semester.*

**Texts:**

*Holt McDougal Literature Grade 9* (Common Core Edition)

*Warriner’s Handbook* 3rd Course

**Outside Texts: Additional Texts:**

*Night*  *The Giver*

*Romeo and Juliet*  *Anthem*

*The Hobbit*  *Tuesdays With Morrie*

*Great Expectations*  *Fallen Angels*

*The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*  *Something Wicked This Way*

*A Lesson Before Dying*

\*\* Additional novels, short stories, poetry, and excerpts as assigned by the teacher.

**Grades:**

**1st 9 weeks** **2nd 9 weeks**

1. Tests- 25% Tests- 25%
2. Quizzes/Projects- 25% Quizzes/Projects- 25%
3. Classwork/Homework- 25% Classwork/Homework- 25%
4. Daily Participation- 15% Daily Participation- 15%
5. Weekly Five- 10% Weekly Five--10%
6. --- End of Course Exam- 25%

**Renaissance Incentives**

Cardholders will receive these rewards in my classroom each 9-week grading period.

**Blue Card** Drop lowest grade, pizza, and drink

**White Card** Drop lowest quiz grade and choice of drink or candy bar

**Black Card** Sit with a friend for a week and choice of a drink or candy bar

**Gray Card** Drop lowest daily grade, candy bar, and drink

**Supplies:**

3-ring binder (Recommend 1 in.)

Loose-leaf notebook paper

Pens and pencils

Composition notebook/Spiral Notebook

Post-It Notes

**Classroom Expectations:**

1. Respect the teacher, classmates, and yourself.
2. Be on time for class and in your seat before the tardy bell rings.
3. Be prepared by having all your materials.
4. Always give your best effort.

**Consequences:**

1st Offense Warning

2nd Offense Teacher Consequence

3rd Offense Office Referral

\*Parents/Guardians will be contacted as needed.

**Make-Up Work:**

I understand that you will miss class at times, but that does not excuse you from the work that you miss. It is **your responsibility** to find out what your make-up work is so that you can complete it. You may check the organizer behind my desk for make-up assignments or check with me. You have 3 days to make-up your work for every 1-day that you miss; therefore, if you miss 2 days, you have 6 days to complete make- up work. If you do not make-up your work on time, a **zero** will be recorded as your grade. Quizzes and tests can be made-up during lunch, homeroom, before school, or after school, so set up a time and day with me. The date and time will need to be recorded on the make-up calendar behind my desk. It is your responsibility to follow through with your make-up work.

**Late Work:**

To receive full credit, homework assignments should be turned in on time. For late work, you will need to fill out the designated **Pink Slip** form, located in the **Late** pocket of the organizer behind my desk. You must fill out the form explaining why the assignment will be late. The form **must** be turned in on the day the assignment is due.

**Tardy Policy:**

Regular attendance is necessary for successful completion of this course. You are expected to be in class and in your seat when the bell rings.

**Cell Phone Usage:**

No use of cell phones. Cell phones may be used at times for instructional purposes in this classroom as determined by me.

**Food and Drink:**

Finish all food and drinks before entering the classroom. **ONLY** bottled water is allowed.

**Tests/Quizzes/Projects/Assignments:**

All tests will be announced several days before they are given. Quizzes may be announced or unannounced and will usually only cover a small segment of material. Projects may range from writing assignments to poster board assignments and may be done individually or in small groups. Classwork is any work that we do in class. The End of Course Exam is a state mandated test that is given at the end of the semester.

**Course Expectations:**

1. **Always have your materials.**

You may not leave the classroom to retrieve your materials once the tardy bell has rung. Please have your binder, paper, and writing materials with your everyday. (Note: Your binder should be organized with English materials, not materials from other classes.)

1. **Participate in class.**

This is an honors English course, and I expect on-topic discussions and focused work from my students whether you are meeting in groups or working individually. You are expected to listen actively during class, to participate by asking questions, to engage classmates and me in topical conversations, and to take notes.

1. **Complete “outside” assignments.**

This includes outside reading assignments, projects, papers, other homework as assigned, etc.

1. **Follow classroom procedures.**

For our class to run smoothly and efficiently certain procedures will be established. Learn them and follow them.

*\*Since you have been in school for several years, I’m assuming you know how to act. I hope that we do not have to waste time in class on behavior issues. We are here to learn in a safe, friendly environment.*

**Extra Help:**

I encourage you to seek extra help from me throughout the year. You may set up an appointment with me via email, before class, or after class.

**Parent/Guardian Communication:**

Parents should feel free to contact me at school with any questions, concerns, or comments.

**The meaning of it all…**

We are here to learn. We will give our best effort. We will get success. We will achieve all of this together.

This is our class agreement. Please look over this carefully so that you have a clear understanding of what is expected of you. If you agree to the statements above, please sign the bottom portion, cut, and return it to me. I am greatly looking forward to working together with you this year!

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read Mrs. Sweeney’s expectations and understand what my responsibilities are to her, the school, my classmates, and myself. I am here to learn. I will give my best effort. I will get success. I will achieve all of this as a community of learners seeking a common goal.

Student Signature: Date:

Parent Signature: Date:

**Parent/Guardian Contact Information:**

Name: Relationship:

Telephone Number: Email:

Name: Relationship:

Telephone Number: Email: