

Course Syllabus for Mrs. Mascarenhas English II  
Room Number 2111  
[Colleen.mascarenhas@houstonisd.org](mailto:Colleen.mascarenhas@houstonisd.org)

**Course Description:**

English II is a required course based on the Texas Department of Education and Houston Independent School District Course of Study. This course emphasizes building essential skills including listening, reading, writing, speaking, and most importantly, critical thinking. Students will respond to a wide variety of texts and have the opportunity to identify and understand the concepts related to several different areas of literary genre along with developing skills in the writing process.

**Course Overview:**

**Literature:** We will read, analyze, and discuss a variety of genres and determine the meaning or implications of words and phrases in the context on which it is used. This will include the ability to interpret, synthesize, and use evidence found in a wide range of sources and to integrate information from words and graphics.

**Composition:** Students will do a variety of writing assignments during each nine-week period. Students will be guided through the writing process with particular emphasis on analysis and textual support of ideas. While not always assigned, rough drafts are strongly recommended as students will be required to analyze sequences of sentences or paragraphs to make sure they are logical and accurately conveys the message to the audience. Major writing assignments must be completed in class and turn in via the HUB. In the event of an absence, students are encouraged to attend tutorials.

**Grammar:** Much of our grammar study will be done through mini-lessons and “Do Now”, and daily oral language, and composition revision.

**Vocabulary:** We will study Greek and Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes, and see how these languages have impacted our own language and how these roots lead to the identification of many new vocabulary words.

**Content Objectives:**

- To develop notetaking, listening, organizational, and other necessary skills.
- To sharpen grammar, punctuation, and usage skills.
- To develop confidence as a reader and a writer.
- To create polished written works through prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing.
- To increase understanding and enjoyment of literature.

**Supplies:** Students are required to bring their school issued laptop to school each day. A pencil, or pen are recommended. A journal l will be provided to each student.

**Student Expectations:**

**BE RESPECTFUL:** When the teacher or anyone is talking, please be attentive and quiet.

**BE RESPONSIBLE:** Have your laptop charged and ready. Engage in the learning process, and maintain academic integrity.

**BE ON TIME:** Be prepared as soon class begins.

**OBEY ALL SCHOOL RULES:** School rules as stated in the student handbook.

**Academic Integrity Guidelines**

It is the policy of Houston Independent School District to facilitate honesty and integrity among the student body. Students must work to be successful in the classroom, each on his/her own merits.

Academic misconduct can be defined to include but not limited to, giving or receiving of unauthorized aid on examinations or in the preparing of notebooks, themes, reports or other assignments, knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work; unauthorized changing of grades; unauthorized use of school approvals or forging of signatures, plagiarizing of another's work, or otherwise acting dishonestly in the classroom. Any misconduct of this kind will result in disciplinary consequences. The assignment will receive a zero and the parent will be notified at that time. Zeros received for cheating may be made up with an alternative assignment during an afterschool assigned detention with the ability to make a maximum of a 70%

**Examples of Academic Misconduct**

**Cheating** – giving, using, or attempting to see unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids, or other devices in any academic exercise, including unauthorized communication of information. In the virtual setting, testing will be timed and submitted before the end of class.

**Fabrication or Falsification** – unauthorized alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise

**Plagiarism** – knowingly presenting the work of another as one's own (i.e. without proper acknowledgement of the source). The sole exception to the requirement of acknowledging sources is when the ideas or information are common knowledge

**Facilitating Academic Misconduct** – giving or attempting to help another commit an act of academic misconduct

**Copyright Laws** – All applicable copyright laws will be in effect as related to both computer software and printed materials.

**More information can be found about technology usage:**

*Houston Independent School District Appropriate Use Policy for Electronic Services for Students,*

[https://www.houstonisd.org/cms/lib2/TX01001591/Centricity/Domain/30442/AcceptableUsePolicy\\_TIS.pdf](https://www.houstonisd.org/cms/lib2/TX01001591/Centricity/Domain/30442/AcceptableUsePolicy_TIS.pdf)

### LATE WORK

The assignments are considered late if it is not turned in the time that it is due. All late work will receive a grade penalty.

- 1<sup>st</sup> day-10%
- 2<sup>nd</sup> day-20%,
- 3<sup>rd</sup> day-30%
- 4<sup>th</sup> day-40%
- 5<sup>th</sup> day-50%

Make-Up Work: One key to success in this class, as well as in other classes, is attendance. However, if an absence is necessary, it is the student's responsibility to gather and complete the work missed. Do not ask about make-up work during whole group instruction. Students may send an email or attend during tutorial hours to receive assignments.

If absent for a test or timed writing assignments, the student is responsible to come to attend an assigned makeup test date for the required assignment or request time to make up the assignment.

Excused absences will receive the number of days missed to complete work. Be mindful of when grading periods end. An "I"/incomplete is the same as ineligible for UIL participation, so some assignments may need to be completed in less time than the number of days the absence allows.

Tutorials: **After school Monday-Wednesday** or by appointment.

### PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

Please access the HISD website for information regarding school policies and other important information.

All assignments and activities as well as resources are posted in the HUB. A resource your student has access to in order to retrieve assignments, obtain missed assignments and to digitally turn in assignments.

**Communication:** The best way to contact Mrs. Mascarenhas is via email @  
colleen.mascarenhas@houstonisd.org

I am very much looking forward to a wonderful year! If you have any questions or need help with anything, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kindest regards,  
Colleen Mascarenhas

\_\_\_\_\_ PRINT  
Student's Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature Date

Email: \_\_\_\_\_