



Phone: 713-688-1361

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Pre-AP English I Course Syllabus 2022-23

Instructor: Susan Miller

Email: susan.miller@houstonisd.org **Room:** 2107

Tutorials: Tuesday & Thursday after school and by appointment

Course Objective:

The Pre-AP English I curriculum is a rich, integrated study of literature, with an emphasis on composition, written for Texas by the College Board. Students will increase and refine their communication and literacy skills. Students will frequently practice all forms of writing, drawing from both literature and personal experience. Students will learn to place emphasis on clarity, correct usage, mechanics and spelling, careful diction, and effective expression. Students will read multiple genres of literature and interpret the possible influences of the historical context on literary work. By the end of this course, the student will have mastered the reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills as written in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English 1.

Course Expectations:

In order to achieve our goal of excellence in literary analysis and to master the skills of writing, students in this course are expected to be prompt, prepared, productive, positive, and polite. Each student will be held accountable for class work, homework, and tests.

Required Materials:

Students are expected to come to class prepared and with the required materials. Failure to do so will result in wasted class time, slower learning, and possible disciplinary action. Please have the following items with you every day. Certain items may be kept in the classroom.

- Composition Notebook (provided)
- 2 Blue or Black Ink Pens
- 2 Red Ink Pens
- Pencils
- School Laptop (provided)
- Pack of Index Cards
- Highlighters
- Box of Tissues (optional)

Texts:

The textbooks for the course are as follows:

- College Board English I Pre-AP
- Various novels (provided)

Grading Scale:

Grading of student work is based on state and district-required learning standards and should provide clear expectations for mastery. Expectations for grading will be clearly defined through rubrics, criteria charts, or other evaluative tools.

Grades will be provided to students and entered into PowerSchool in a timely manner. A minimum of 2 grades should be recorded each week and at least 1 Test/Project/Quiz grade every two weeks. PowerSchool should be monitored to ensure grades are current. The following grade weights will be used to determine six-week grades:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| • Classwork/Homework | 50% (minimum of 6) |
| • Test/Project/Quiz | 30% (minimum of 3) |
| • Daily/Participation | 20% (minimum of 6) |

Homework Requirement:

Homework will be assigned regularly. Consistent failure to complete homework assignments will result in slower learning, below-level mastery of objectives, poor grades, and parent/teacher/student conferences.

Absence & Make-Up Work Policy:

One key to success in this class is attendance. However, if an absence is necessary, it is the student's responsibility to gather and complete all work that is 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 assignment, the student is responsible for attending an assigned makeup test date or requesting a 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.

Late Work:

Assignments are considered late if they are not turned in at the time it is due. If the student attended school at any time during the day, turning in the assignment is required. Field trips are not an excuse for not turning in work. Students will have the opportunity to submit late work following an absence. Grade penalties and the amount of time allowed to complete the assignment are as follows:

Late work related to an absence:

- No deduction if turned in 3 days following the absence

Late work NOT related to an absence:

- 1 day late 90%
- 2 days late 80%
- 3 days late 70%
- 4 days late 60%
- 5 days late 50%

Academic Dishonesty:

With the exception of designated group work, students are expected to complete homework, class work, and tests on their own. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct will not be tolerated. 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 after-school assigned detention with the ability to make a maximum of 70%.

Cell Phone Policy:

Cell phone (and headphone/earbud) usage will be designated by the teacher. Outside of this designated time, cell phones and accessories are to be silent and put away. Failure to adhere to this policy will result in the device(s) being collected until the end of the day or turned into the office for parent retrieval.

Communication:

The best way to contact me is via email at susan.miller@houstonisd.org or Remind.

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.

Please read, sign, date, and return this page.

We have received and reviewed the course syllabus. We understand what is expected as described above.

Student Name

Student Signature

Date Signed

Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date Signed

Parent/Guardian Email

Parent/Guardian Number