



**Phone: 713-688-1361**

**Website: [www.houstonisd.org/waltrip](http://www.houstonisd.org/waltrip)**

## English 2 Course Syllabus 2021-22

**Instructor:** Robin Vail

**Email:** [robin.vail@houstonisd.org](mailto:robin.vail@houstonisd.org) **Room:** 2105

**Office Hours:** Wednesday and Friday 12:55 to 2:25

### **About the Teacher:**

Briefly, I was born and raised in Virginia. I graduated from Southwestern Assembly of God with my B.A. in English Education grades 4-12 and my M.Ed. in Middle and Secondary Education. I have my principal certification from the University of St. Thomas, Houston. I am entering my 10<sup>th</sup> year in teaching and have a plethora of experience teaching English, ESL, and Special Education.

### **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 six-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 submitted via the HUB or at the end class. 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 I 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.

**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. Vail is through email at [robin.vail@houstonisd.org](mailto:robin.vail@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,*

***Robin Vail. M.Ed.***