



English I Syllabus 2020-2021

Instructor: Chrystal Smith
Conference: 10:20-11:10
Phone: 281-229- 6497

Course Length: 1 year (2 semesters)
Email: csmith@dickinsonisd.org
Tutorials: M, Tu, Th 2:45-3:15

I. Course Description

English I will lay a strong foundation for both literary and expository writing, as well as literary analysis. An emphasis will be placed on thesis, organizational structure, development of ideas, narrative, and rhetorical strategies to create voice in writing. Students will also learn to write with textual evidence and commentary, and should expect to write such analytical paragraphs/essays on every piece of literature or reading unit. Grammar lessons will be incorporated into the writing process throughout the course. Students will read extensively in multiple genres, including short stories, dramas, non-fiction texts, and poems. Literary forms and terms associated with selected text and rhetorical techniques for writing will be learned with repeated emphasis and written practice throughout the year.

II. Expectations

Your responsibilities **as a student** are to (1) come prepared and expecting to learn EVERY day; (2) ask questions when you need help (and offer help when you can give it); (3) show kindness and respect to your fellow students and the teacher; and (4) give your personal best.

*In addition, students are expected to follow all rules as stated in the Student Code of Conduct. The campus will follow The Safe, Civil and Productive Initiative. Teachers will explain how students are to do the following in his/her classroom:

Conversation
Help
On Task
Movement
Participation

III. Grades

Formative (Daily, Quizzes, Homework, Etc.): **50%**

Summative (Curriculum Based Assessments, Tests, Major Projects, Essays, Etc): **50%**

IV. Homework & Late Work

Homework: Unfinished class work may be completed at home or in tutoring and turned in at the **beginning** of class the following day unless otherwise specified. If it is not turned in at the beginning of class, it will be considered late.

Late work: Any assignment that is not turned in at the beginning of the period or when due will be considered late and have 15 points deducted on the first day it is late, then a total of 30 points deducted on the second day, and a total of 50 points deducted on the third day. If work is turned in late a fourth day students will receive a zero. This policy is subject to change. Students can come to tutoring to complete missed or even late work.

Make-up work: *It is your responsibility to get any missed assignments and notes from.* You will not be given class time to work on missed assignments; if you are absent, you are expected to attend tutoring to complete the work. You have as many days to turn in missed work as you were absent without penalty. If you are absent on the day a project is due, you are expected to turn it in upon your return. Make-up tests/quizzes will be made up during tutorials and **NOT** during school hours. Remember: when you turn in any make up work, be sure to tell me that you were absent so that I do not accidentally count it late and take points off!

V. TUTORING:

All tutoring will be held after school on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 2:45-3:15PM. If you are absent, you should attend tutoring to complete missed assignments.

VI. Required Materials

You will need with you every day:

1. Post it notes
2. hand sanitizer
3. 1 pack of pencils
4. two packs of 100 **3X5 sized** index cards (lined, unlined, colored or white—NOT GRAPH)
5. pen (blue/black ink)
6. 2 Packs of notebook paper
7. A four pack of multicolored highlighters
8. additionally, each period is assigned to bring one extra supply to be kept in the classroom and shared by everyone: period ____ = _____

VII. Technology

We will be utilizing **Google Classroom** as an extension of our physical classroom. All students are expected to have access to Google Classroom outside of the school day. Assignments, reminders, and other important information will be posted to Google Classroom.

Students are required to place their electronics in the hanging pockets at the beginning of my class. Please mark (on the signature page) whether your student brings a cell phone/electronic device to school on a regular basis.

VIII. Special Notes

- Parents, we welcome hearing from you and encourage your active involvement in your child's education. Please note that ninth grade is a HUGE adjustment for children. Frequently, ninth graders try to do too many things at one time and find that their grades suffer. Also, daily support and encouragement from parents goes a long way in helping your child through this challenging year.
- At least **24 hours' notice** is required for a conference. Email is the preferred form of communication. My classroom phone number is provided on the first page, but I ask that you call after 2:35PM or, better yet, email me!
- The STAAR (EOC) test will be given **in April of 2021**. It is imperative that your student is present as this test is a graduation requirement. Students who do their part each day throughout the year and attend tutorials when needed will do well on this rigorous state exam.
- If you (parent/guardian/student) would like reminders about important events, sign up for notifications through Remind101! The code will be emailed out for your convenience

IX. GOTTA KEEP READING!

It is expected that you read for a **minimum of 30 minutes** during class per week. This may be a novel, magazine, or other book. ***It is expected that all students have a book to read at all times while at school.***

Please sign and return by Monday. September 14, 2020

Parents/Guardians and Students,

Please sign and date this page to confirm that you have read, understood, and agreed to the English I Syllabus.

Does your student bring a cell phone or any other electronics to school on a daily basis?

☐

YES

☐

NO

Student Name: _____ Period: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent
Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent
E-mail: _____

Parent Phone
Number(s): _____

Any other
Comments/Concerns: _____

CELL PHONES

In compliance with the Dickinson High School policy on cell phones, students may not have a cell phone at their desk or on their person during class time. Additionally, phones should be placed on silent or airplane mode to prevent distractions during lessons. Before the bell to begin class rings all cell phones will be turned into the cell phone holder that corresponds to the students seat number. Attendance will be taken based on this system. Non-compliance issues with this policy will follow the code of conduct for Dickinson High School.

Please check one box to indicate whether your student has a cell phone.

☐

Yes, my student has a cell phone

☐

No, my student does not have a cell phone

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the 2020-2021 cell phone policy .

Parent/Legal Gaurdian: _____

Student: _____