

## Contact Me

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WRITING!  
A LOT TO COME!



VOCABULARY AND  
GRAMMAR!



LITERATURE!  
GREAT BOOKS!

# HONORS ENGLISH II



## General Expectations

The most important expectations in my class are that all students are treated with respect, that all ideas are considered, and that everyone makes his/her best effort to make a meaningful contribution to the work of your education. Passivity is not a virtue here. Not only do you have an obligation to yourself to do as well as you can, you have an obligation to our community of learners to offer insight and input.

My goals are to help you become a stronger writer and a better critical thinker. The content selected for the class will be selected with that goal in mind. We will write, perhaps more than you ever have, and discuss in depth issues from the classroom content and outside. True learning occurs when you are engaged in the subject and an active participant in your own education.

## The Rules

I suppose that I could list a series of rules and expectations here, but community rules and norms tend to evolve over time. I suspect we will have a better sense of the rules that govern our class as we get to know each other. There are a few points that are not negotiable:

**Tolerance.** Recognizing that other people have different values, beliefs, appearance and desires is a hallmark of maturity. Some people never reach it; you should make every effort to. I will not tolerate language or actions that exclude or demean. Heated argumentation should be the model for our class—argumentation that is focused on issues and not personality.

**Respect for Substitutes.** This is an absolute requirement. Subbing can be an unpleasant experience; it should not be for people who sub in my class.

**Plagiarism.** Don't! If you are unsure if something is ethical, odds are that it is not. More information about plagiarism and how to avoid it can be found on the website.

**Phones and electronic devices.** These should only be out when I have told you to use them.

# Academic Requirements

## Essays and Writing (40%)

Essays and writing are the most important part of your grade in this class and the grade will include all of the parts of the process from pre-writing to complete, final draft. Each quarter, we'll right between 2-3 multi-draft pieces and 2-3 timed writes. During the sophomore year, the focus is on two modes of writing: compare and contrast and synthesis.

## Literature (25%)

Your literature grade will include homework, quizzes, and tests related to our reading assignments.

## Grammar (15%)

We'll work on grammar every week, with direct instruction, self-paced practice, and **quizzes every other week**. Our focus during this year will be to review English I grammar and learn new English II skills like colons, semicolons, pronoun usage, sentence errors, and subject-verb agreement.

## Vocabulary (10%)

We'll have a vocabulary related quiz most Fridays, focused on Greek and Latin word bases.

## Participation, Speaking, and Listening (10%)

The final portion of your grade will be for participation, speaking, and listening skills. We'll have one class presentation each quarter and you will receive a quarterly grade for be an active participant in class.

## Late Assignments

Homework can be turned in up to one class day late for half credit. You may turn in papers up to one week late with no deduction in your grade, but you may not revise these late papers. After a week has passed, you will receive a zero for the assignment

## *Works We'll Read and Potentially Read*



### Reading List:

- Outliers
- To Kill a Mockingbird
- Homegoing
- 12 Angry Men
- Letter
- Shakespeare Study
- Between the World and Me
- Things Fall Apart
- Fools Crow
- We Should All Be Feminists
- Nature Unit