

Honors English I

Mr. Jason Spitzer

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Remind App: Text @2c83ha to 81010

Course Description:

This course is designed to meet the state standards for 9th grade English, as adopted by the state of California. Students will: read literary fiction and nonfiction; conduct research; write essays, reports, and journals; conduct oral presentations; learn and practice proper English grammar usage and mechanics; and develop vocabulary.

The course is also designed to prepare students for AP English Language & Composition and AP English Literature & Composition through the introduction and practice of the skills necessary for success in those courses, including extensive close reading and frequent analytical writing.

Course Planner:

First Quarter: Fictional Literature

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee and other literature.

Second Quarter: Fictional Literature

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck and other literature.

Third Quarter: Nonfiction, Argument, and Rhetoric

David and Goliath by Malcolm Gladwell and other literary nonfiction.

Fourth Quarter: Drama and Poetry

Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare

The Odyssey by Homer and other poetry

Expectations:

1. Respect the teacher, your classmates, and the classroom at all times.
2. Be in your assigned seat, with all required materials, when the bell rings.
3. Give your best effort.
4. No excuses nor special treatment.

I want every student to have the opportunity to learn and to have a positive experience in the class. If you interfere with my ability to teach, or another student's ability to learn, it will result in one of the following consequences:

1. Verbal Warning.
2. Detention.
3. Parent Contact.
4. Office Referral.

Attendance:

In order to get the most out of the class, it is important to come to class and to arrive on time.

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and to make-up the assignment (classwork/homework) or assessment (quiz/test) on your own time. You can contact me through e-mail (jspitzer@muroc.k12.ca.us) or by calling the school (661-258-4411 ex. 4028). You may also view the posted agenda on the class website (jasonspitzer.org/honors-english-i).

Coming to class late is disruptive. Students must be in their assigned seats with the required materials when the bell rings or they will be marked tardy.

****Board Policy 5121 (Unexcused Absences)****

If a student misses class without an excuse and does not subsequently turn in homework, take a test or fulfill another class requirement that he/she missed, the teacher may lower the student's grade for non-performance.

Students with excessive unexcused absences (more than 20% per grading period) may be given a failing grade and not receive credit for the class(es). Teachers who withhold class credit for this reason shall so inform the class and parent/guardians at the beginning of the semester.

Late/Missing Work:

Late/Missing *classwork* and *homework* will be accepted no later than the end of the grading period for partial credit, unless it was assigned or due on a day in which there is an excused absence.

Materials:

- Assigned Textbooks (if needed that day)
- Pencil/pen
- Paper

Grades:

Students' quarter grades will be based on their performance on the following tasks:

- Major Papers (30%)
- Tests/Quizzes (20%)
- Projects/Presentations (15%)
- Pre-AP (10%)
- Journals (10%)
- Classwork (10%)
- Homework (5%).

Semester grades will be based on an average of the quarter grades and the final exam (**the final exam is one-third of the semester grade**). Final grades will not be rounded and will be based on the following scale:

98-100%=A+ 93-97=A 90-92=A- 88-89=B+ 83-86=B 80-82=B- 78-79=C+ 73-76=C 70-72=C- 68-69=D+ 63-67=D 60-62=D- 59 and below=F

For each semester, students will have a choice regarding their final exam. Students can either reteach a unit previously taught that semester in a group presentation (3-4 students) or students can decide to work individually on a term paper that explains a unit previously taught that semester.

Course Textbooks:

Beers, Kyrene, et al. *Collections Grade 9*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2017.

Honors English I

I have read the course syllabus for the class, and I understand what is expected of me in this course.

Print Student Name

Student Signature

Date

I have read my child's course syllabus for the class, and I understand what is expected of my child in this course.

Print Parent Name

Parent Signature

Date

Parent E-mail: _____

Parent Phone: _____