

Honors English II Course Description

Instructor: DePalatis

In English II Honors students will examine significant and challenging literary works from the Renaissance through contemporary times. Students are expected to read prolifically and critically. Reading assignments will include *Othello*, *Much Ado about Nothing*, *Jane Eyre*, *Tale of Two Cities*, *All Quiet on the Western Front*, *Animal Farm*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Fahrenheit 451*, *Night*, *Raisin in the Sun*, *The Laramie Project*, a sampling of Romantic poetry, as well as a variety of informational texts connected to the literature.

Students will continue to develop their expository writing skills with a focus on literary analysis and persuasive writing. Students will learn to skillfully utilize computer technology, responsibly research topics, successfully incorporate findings into their writing, and properly document their sources. Students will also develop skill at the analysis, writing and delivery of poetry. Grammar and vocabulary study will enhance oral and written communication.

Successful Completion: Meets one year of the English graduation requirement and prepares students for upper division honors and Advanced Placement coursework in English.

Outline of Activities

- **Litblog:** See description in the document in the Google Classroom. All litblogs will be submitted to turnitin.com at the end of each semester.
- **Reading:** It is very important to keep up with the reading. The teacher will use litblogs, essays, seminar discussions and final tests to assess reading comprehension and analysis. **Warning! If you don't do your reading, you will not do well in this class.**
- **Composition:** First semester writing assignments will focus on the development of the literary analysis of both novels and poetry. Second semester's focus will be on argumentation, persuasion and research culminating in a research-based essay of argumentation. Throughout the semester students will complete a variety of expository, creative and business writing assignments. A benchmark writing exam each semester will monitor growth in persuasive writing. Students will write, revise, incorporate peer feedback, and produce first drafts in google docs, then download files to a pdf to submit to turnitin.com to check for plagiarism. Instructor will grade the papers in Grademark in turnitin.com and the grading function in Google Classroom.
- **Speech:** Students will participate in a variety of oral communication assignments such as impromptu speeches, formal presentations, debates, a poetry slam and collaborative discussions.
- **Poetry:** Each student will memorize one poem per quarter. The teacher will assign the first three quarters' poems, and the students will be able to choose their fourth quarter poem. A second semester poetry-writing project will help develop the writer's voice, culminating in a Poetry Slam competition.
- **Vocabulary:** Students will learn Tier 2 and 3 vocabulary words by doing exercises, taking weekly tests and completing a semester final using the Sadlier Oxford Vocabulary Workshop, Level E and F books..

Grading

- Grades will be determined on a traditional scale:
90-100 = A 80-89 = B 70-79 = C 60-69 = D below 60 = F
- Final Exam will be approximately 20% of the grade

Language Arts Department Policies

Late Work Policy

In Honors English 2, each student will receive four 1-day homework passes to be used at the student's discretion within the semester. Passes may not be used to postpone tests or presentations. Unused extensions will convert to EC points at the end of each semester. Students who use up their four passes before the end of the semester and then have other late assignments will be required to attend the instructor's next office hours to complete the assignment/s. The student will be assigned to come to office hours each week until all incomplete work is turned in. For every day of excused absence, students will have one day to make up missed assignments. If a student misses a test due to excused absence, it must be completed within one week at a time agreed upon by the teacher and student. If a student is truant, any work missed or assignments due may not be accepted for credit.

Exam Retake Policy

Exams may not be retaken.

At the teacher's discretion, students may be allowed to make corrections on their exams in order to earn additional credit.

Plagiarism Prevention

All formal writing assignments, excluding in-class timed writes, must be submitted to turnitin.com to earn a grade. In accordance with the CHS Code of Conduct, students who have plagiarized will receive no credit for the essay, and the student will be disciplined.

Writing Assessment

All student writing will be scored using the department's four-point rubric, with the exception of Advanced Placement, SAT, and ACT timed writes, which will be scored according to the rubrics established by the testing agencies. Rubric scores will be converted to points, according to the conversion table.

Writing Response Time

Student writing will be scored, returned, and posted to Aeries within two weeks of submission. Extended time may be needed in cases when teacher has collected multiple sets of lengthy essays.

Writing Feedback

Whenever possible, teachers will conference with students during the writing process. Teachers will provide written feedback on final drafts that recognizes student strengths and identifies areas for growth. Feedback will direct students toward how they can improve their work. Grammatical and mechanical errors will be identified on assignments that qualify for revision.

Revision Policy

Students will have the option to revise final drafts of formal writing assignments. In order to qualify for a revision, the original paper must have been submitted on time and meet all the original requirements of the assignment, as designated by the teacher. The maximum grade increase on a revision will be one rubric score. Whether to allow multiple revisions of the same assignment is up to the discretion of the teacher.

Cell Phone Policy

Most of the time in English II Honors will not require the use of cell phones, so please put your cell phone in the cell phone holder at the side of the classroom when you come to class. The instructor will let you know when you will need to keep your cell phones with you at your desks.

Classroom Rules

Behave appropriately in the classroom.

Be courteous to everyone.

No food or drink in the classroom except water.

No cell phone use during class unless approved by the instructor.

Zoom Policies

Since we are still in a pandemic, there is a small chance we will need to do zoom classes. If that eventuality occurs, it is essential, therefore, that students abide by Zoom Class Expectations as outlined below.

Zoom Class Expectations

1. As expected of any class interaction, use appropriate language and treat one another with courtesy and respect. Use of profanity or other inappropriate language - written, drawn, displayed or spoken - during a meeting is unacceptable
2. Log into the Zoom account using your cusd.me email (e.g., ldavinci.cusd.me). Display your full name.
3. Out of respect for others' privacy, please do not take a screenshot or recording without the explicit permission from the teacher.
4. Arrive on time for the class session. You will be admitted to the "waiting room" before being admitted to the class and muted upon entry.
5. Zoom is a virtual classroom; therefore, all classroom rules apply
6. Do not share class meeting IDs and passwords with others outside of the class.
7. Report to the session dressed appropriately for class.
8. Keep your microphone muted until it is your turn to speak
9. Keep your camera on at all times.