

English II: Spring 2016 Course Syllabus

Mrs. Laquet and Ms. Campbell - Room E215

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Welcome to the spring semester of English II! In this course, we will be building on knowledge and skills gained during the first semester of English II. During this class you will be reading and writing a variety of texts both nonfiction and fiction. These texts will vary in length and complexity in order to help you build skills to become a more proficient communicator for different audiences and purposes. A variety of technology skills will be taught throughout this course to help with the edition, revision, and publication of your work. We will be building a community of writers and readers to help each other during the writing process.

MAJOR UNITS:

Argumentative Writing
Independent Non-Fiction Novel



MATERIALS YOU WILL NEED:

Pens /Pencils (Bring 2 to each class)
Notebook
Loose-leaf paper

GRADING:

Grading for this course is calculated on total points. This means that all assignments share the same weight, but more significant assignments will carry higher point values. For instance, a homework assignment may be worth 10 total points where a research paper can be worth as many as 250. You will be able to calculate your average by keeping track of your scores on assignments. Your grade will be factored by considering the following:

Participation
In-Class Work
Homework
Quizzes
Essays and Projects
Tests
Final Exam (worth 20% of your final grade)

GRADING SCALE:

A+: 99-100%	A: 95-98%	A-: 93-94%
B+: 91-92%	B: 87-90%	B-: 85-86%
C+: 83-84%	C: 79-82%	C-: 77-78%
D+: 75-76%	D: 72-74%	D-: 70-71%
F: 0-69%		

LATE WORK POLICY:

All work turned in after the due date will be given a maximum score of 80% of points allowed. NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED more than 10 school days after the midterm. All work must be turned in before end of semester review week. See page 22 of the student handbook for more information.

Note: The content of this syllabus is subject to change in accordance with the needs of the class and/or instructor.

CLASSROOM FOLDERS & ABSENT WORK:

Each of you will have your own personal hanging folder in this classroom. We will return graded work to this folder. Longer projects or writing assignments done in class will also be kept in this folder.

Any assignments that you miss will be in the tray, on the cabinet next to the door, with the corresponding class period. It is your responsibility to stay on top of and complete work that you have missed. Check your folder at the beginning of class, before completing the bellringer.

BELLRINGERS:

At the beginning of class, there will be a bellringer on the board. After checking your folder, you will have a few minutes to complete the prompt. These will be factored into the final participation grade for the semester.

CLASSROOM RULES AND EXPECTATIONS:

In addition to school rules and expectations, the following classroom expectations apply:

Be Respectful

Over the semester we will spend many class periods working in partners and groups. While you may not always agree with your partner, group, or teacher, it is important that you do so in a respectful manner. Try to problem solve--get creative. These are skills that you will need in the work force!

Be Responsible

Make sure you have all class materials when you need them. Always come to class with two writing utensils, preferably a pen and a pencil. Bring your books and a notebook to class every day. If you need a pencil, you may trade your ID for one during class. You will get your ID back when we get our pencil back.

OTHER RULES:

Plagiarism - Plagiarizing and cheating will not be tolerated, as we follow a zero tolerance policy in the classroom. If a student is caught cheating or plagiarizing, a '0' will be given on the assignment without opportunity to make it up and administration, parents/guardians will be notified. See page 32 in the student handbook for further information.

Electronic devices/cellphones/iPods/etc. - The school cell phone policy prohibits phones in the classroom. This applies to any use, including listening to music. When you walk into the classroom, phones must be off and out of sight. If I see your phone out I will act according to the consequences outlined on page 25-26 of the student handbook.

Hall Passes - At the beginning of each semester, you will be given one bathroom/drink pass that you may use four times throughout the 18 weeks. You will need to have your pass hole punched and signed before leaving class. Passes may be turned in at the end of each semester for extra credit. *Fewer hole punches in the pass= more extra credit points.* Lost passes mean immediate forfeiture of points.

Tardies - You must be in class beginning your work before the bell rings. After checking your folder, you will have a few minutes to complete the bellringer on the board. See page 43 in the student handbook for further information.