

English II Course Outline 2021-2022

Philosophy and Course Description: English II seeks to expose students to a wide variety of texts and modes of response in order to connect with students' diverse abilities. A strong focus is placed on evaluating motivations behind texts and their connection to both other literature as well as Christian doctrine. Students are challenged to seek out subtle Christian truths in non-Christian texts, referencing Paul's teaching in Romans 1.18-20, that God's truths are made evident to all men regardless of the worldview they choose. As well, in order to create young adults adept at sharing their faith and interacting intelligently with the world around them, students learn to apply these lessons to formulating persuasive, organized, well-reasoned, and essays and speeches.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of the course, the students will:

- A. Recognize, read, and analyze the various literary genres
- B. Effectively employ active listening, critical thinking, and reading strategies
- C. Develop Latin derivative vocabulary and grammatical skills through recognition and usage
- D. Formulate a personal resume and career research
- E. Demonstrate competency in research, organization, and presentation of a term paper
- F. Present thoughtful and organized written and oral expression
- G. Recognize and evaluate the subtle Christian truths in non-Christian texts

Course Outline

Yearlong

- SAT Latin vocabulary
- Persuasive argumentation
- Oral presentation skills

Semester 1

- *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee
- Testimony/story of faith speech
- Independent novel and speech
- Poetry

Semester 2

- *Night*, Elie Wiesel
- *Lord of the Flies*, William Golding
- *Much Ado About Nothing*, William Shakespeare
- World issue research paper

Movies Watched:

- Clips from *To Kill a Mockingbird*
- *Much Ado About Nothing* (1995, edited for the classroom)

Course Materials:

****during hybrid and beyond, bring the following each day****

1. **iPad:** due to distance and hybrid learning, your most important item is your iPad. Please have it charged and functioning each day. If it stops working or is having issues, GET HELP IMMEDIATELY. During a test or right before an assignment is due is not the time to admit your iPad hasn't been working correctly.
2. **Planner/agenda:** have a system for knowing what your homework is. Sometimes, RenWeb does not list all of the details about an assignment (like how to do it, etc.)
3. **Non-iPad literature**, if applicable (such as *To Kill a Mockingbird* or independent novel)

Course Evaluation:

Evaluation of student mastery of course competencies (i.e. your grade) will be accomplished using the following grading scale A = 100-90 B = 89-80 C = 79-70 D = 69-60 F = 59-0

Grading Categories:

Grading will be on a pure points basis. Each point, regardless of category, is equal in this class. The more important an assignment is, the more points it is worth. Rubrics for larger assignments will be available in the rubrics folder.

- **Classwork and homework (CW/HW):** Writer's workshop, small assignments, group work, etc.
- **Essays and Projects:** Research papers, quarter projects, essays, rough drafts, etc.
- **Tests and Quizzes:** Weekly Latin vocabulary quizzes, unit quizzes, unit tests.
 - *Unless otherwise noted, any and all topics discussed in class could be on an upcoming test or final exam. Therefore, it is your responsibility to take notes during all lessons.
- **Speeches:** Each quarter will have at least one main speech and possibly shorter speeches. Outlines and visual aids, if required, count toward speech grades.
- **Participation:** because of the unique nature of distance and hybrid learning, participation points will be assessed each week. You start the week with 5 points and can lose them if you are not meeting the following expectations:
 - Being to class on time
 - Participation in class and group discussions
 - Being prepared with your

Student Expectations

Student handbook rules apply in class at all times. Essentially, do the right thing, no excuses.

- **Masks:** Masks are the biggest mitigator of COVID this year, meaning they are the most important thing to get right! Masks must be covering your chin and nose at all times, unless taking a QUICK drink of water. Your mask cannot come off of your face when you drink water--you may pull it down briefly then must replace it as soon as you are done.
 - Please also be mindful of social distancing.
- **Cheating/Turnitin.com:** Some assignments will be turned in via Google Classroom AND in Turnitin.com (our plagiarism checker). Please be sure to submit assignments to BOTH platforms if that is part of the assignment.
- **Talking:** I expect you to behave as young adults. Be respectful. Wait your turn. Don't have side conversations while I'm teaching or another student's talking.
- **Tardies:** If you're not in the room when the bell rings, you're tardy. If you arrive late, I may have already marked you absent. In that event, I have to send you to the office to clear it (this is a school policy).
- **Backpacks:** Backpacks, sports bags, etc. must be on the floor *in the back of the classroom*
 - Backpacks cannot be next to your desk or in an empty desk. They must be along the back shelf and out of reach.
 - The shelf is reserved for food, drinks, art projects, jackets, fragile items, etc.
- **Cell Phones:**
 - Phones must be in your backpack and on complete silent--**not vibrate**.
 - If your phone makes a noise and is in your pocket, it will go to the dean.
- **Watches:** due to smart watches being prevalent, no watches of any kind may be worn during a test or quiz and will be placed under your desk.
- **Food:** No food may be eaten inside the classroom. This is a COVID rule. Sorry!
 - This includes before the bell has rung. Please finish food before walking through the door.
- **Drinks:** Water is always allowed without needing permission. Don't spill. Clean up spills and condensation.
 - Any drink other than water must be approved before you bring it to your desk. Otherwise, leave it on the back shelf.
- **Moving Seats:** Stay in your seat and do not move your desk unless given permission.

- **Leaving the Room:** You must ask permission to leave the classroom. You must have a hall pass (paper slips this year, no shared blocks of plastic).
- **End of Class:** Please wait until I am done teaching to start packing up. It distracts me and your peers when you begin packing up while I am still teaching.
- **iPads:** All rules in the Acceptable Use Policy apply to this class.
 - iPads should always be in the basket under your desk until I tell you to open it.
 - Because we use Apple Classroom (different than Google Classroom), you are expected to have bluetooth on at all times, iPads flat on your desk, and all sharing requirements for Apple Classroom in effect at all times in my classroom.
 - During tests and quizzes, all other apps MUST be closed out. Having another app open during the quiz will be considered cheating.
 - Bring your iPad, fully charged and functioning, to class every day. Failure to do so could result in lost points for any assignments that day.
 - **No photographs or video may be taken in class without permission.**
 - This is a law, not a preference I have. *You are legally liable if you take a photo or video without permission.*

Academic Expectations

- **Accommodations:** I am more than happy to accommodate depending on your needs, as long as you still complete a sufficient amount of work in an acceptable timeline to merit credit for this class.
 - If you have a documented need (learning disability, etc.) for an accommodation, please see me privately so we can find a good plan for your situation.
 - If there is an emergency, such as a death in the family or a medical issue, please contact me as soon as possible. These will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- **Directions and Handouts:** Google Classroom will be used for this class. You are encouraged to check it frequently and to also check RenWeb throughout the week. Occasionally, due dates or instructions are updated, so please refresh and revisit to be aware.
- **Late/Absent Work:** There is a separate document for late and absent work that will be discussed later this week.
 - Be aware of late/absent work policies--being absent in the days leading up to a major project does not guarantee an extension. Please contact Mrs. Samoulides for specifics involving your situation.
 - If you are absent for multiple days leading up to a major assignment, please contact me *at least* 48 hours before the assignment is due to request an extension. If it is within 48 hours of the due date, you may not be granted an extension.
 - **You are responsible for all information and any assignments given in each class, even if you are absent. Check Google Classroom, ask classmates, check RenWeb, or email your teacher if you miss anything.**
 - ***Due to the iPad, all information is readily available. You are expected to check the specified resources for information, handouts, instructions, study materials, etc.***
- **MLA:** MLA formatting is required for all assignments. Please familiarize yourself with it to be prepared and to receive full credit on each assignment.

Cheating and Plagiarism

“Lying lips [and pens] are an abomination to the Lord, but those who deal truthfully are His delight” (Proverbs 12:22). Cheating and plagiarism are not allowed. Examples of cheating and/or plagiarism include (but are not limited to): submitting someone else’s work (either entirely or in part) as your own; using ideas that are not your own when not allowed or without giving credit to your source; getting answers for test, exam, or quiz questions from other students or a source not permitted during or before a test, exam, or quiz; speaking to another student during a test, exam, or quiz;

assisting another student in any form of cheating or plagiarism; etc. Should you be unsure whether or not you are plagiarizing, please see the teacher BEFORE submitting an assignment. Please see the student handbook for further information.

Contact Info:

Email (preferred method of contact): csamoulides@bereanchristian.com

School phone: (925) 945-6464 ext. 222

Please read the syllabus with a parent and sign this page by typing your name in the signature line. This is required for credit.

Student: I have read and understand the English II course outline and late work policy. I understand what is expected of me and I agree to adhere to the English II class procedures and policies. I agree to check my email daily and RenWeb regularly in order to be prepared for all assignments and any updates to instructions or due dates.

Student signature (type in lieu of signing): _____

Date: _____

Parent: I have read my son/daughter's English II course outline, and I understand what is expected of my son/daughter. I confirm that my son/daughter has agreed to follow the English II class procedures and policies.

Parent signature (type in lieu of signing): _____

Date: _____

**Thank you, students and parents!
Charity Samoulides**