

Lufkin High School English Department English II Pre-AP Syllabus

Introduction

English II is a 36-week course designed to continue what the students learned in English I and prepare students to advance to other levels, both high school and college, as competent English students. This course will help students expand and reinforce their knowledge and use of grammar mechanics, vocabulary development, reading and writing skills, revision and editing skills, and above all, the ability to think critically. Also, this course will prepare students to master the reading and writing sections of the STAAR (State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness) test and will give students an introduction to the AP testing format and the SAT using PSAT materials.

Course Overview

During this class, students will begin by reviewing grammar components such as parts of speech. Then they will study more complex grammar involving complex sentences and sentence structure by definition, identification, and usage through writing. Students will have to write various essays and learn to respond to short answer questions effectively. In addition, students will read novels, dramas and short stories. Students will also study the elements of poetry. Students may be asked to complete independent studies, possibly one covering poetry and one using one of the pieces of literature we study as a framework. The entire course is comprehensive: each unit mastered will reappear in other units throughout the year.

Mastery Teaching/Learning:

The comprehensive nature of this class requires that students learn every component, as each component will be a building block for the following units. Students must demonstrate mastery on three levels of learning (definition, identification, and usage) before advancing to the next concept. This may require re-teaching sessions and after school tutoring for those needing further assistance. Students will be required to acquire mastery level learning in grammar, writing, and revision and editing.

Grading Policy

The grading policy is as follows:

30 % of grade from daily work such as:

- grammar work, homework, participation, diagramming, revising & editing, etc.
- STAAR / AP multiple choice and open-ended responses,
- vocabulary / TCUP / literary terms quizzes.

70 % of grade tests, exams and essays to include Grammar Exams and STAAR-style, timed AP essays, and formal essays, etc.

Note – Credit will be denied if student attendance is less than 90%

Make-Up Work

- All missed in-class assignments must be completed within the 3-week grading period or before the unit test (whichever occurs first).
- All missed homework will be assigned a new due date dependent upon the number of days the student was absent from class.
- If the assignment occurs directly before the 3-week period ends the assignment must be completed within a time frame determined by the English II - PAP teaching team.
- This policy applies to all absences, including extra-curricular.
- Teachers will enter a 0 in the gradebook until the assignment has been completed.

Late Work Policy for Pre-AP Classes

- 15-point deduction per day within 3 school days of the original due date of the assignment. After 3 days, the late assignment will no longer be accepted.
- Teachers will enter a 0 in the gradebook until the assignment has been completed.

*****Note:** When an English II- PAP student misses class for any reason, *it is his or her responsibility to ask about all missed work and / or assignments.* Simply saying that “I was absent when we did that” at the end of a grading period will NOT be an acceptable excuse. It is not the responsibility of the teacher to remind students of missing and / or late assignments. Any missing or late assignments will be recorded in the grade book as a zero until made up by the student.

Request to Reassess (for up to 70%)

All students in English II – PAP will have an opportunity to reassess a cumulative assessment (excluding summer reading, benchmarks, projects, midterms and finals) for up to 70% upon request. To be eligible to reassess, students must complete a *Request to Reassess* form. Students must apply for the opportunity to reassess prior to the end of the 3-week grading window or the next unit test, whichever occurs first. (see attached sample)

Academic Dishonesty Policy

Attached to this syllabus is a copy of the Lufkin High School Academic Dishonesty Policy. Please review carefully before signing and having your parents sign.

Classroom Rules:

Each teacher may have his/her personal rules and method of discipline for respective classrooms; however, there are some rules that are applicable to each classroom in the English Department:

- A. BE PROMPT
- B. BE PREPARED
 - Bring proper materials to class each day (your teacher will not provide them for you).
 - Do your homework.
 - Be in your seat ready to work BEFORE the tardy bell rings.
- C. BE PRODUCTIVE
 - Maximize learning time.
 - Stay on task.
- D. BE POLITE
 - To classmates (No disruptive behavior)
 - To school property
 - To your teacher and other school personnel
- E. BE PATIENT
 - Wait your turn.
 - Listen for directions.
 - Be respectful.
- F. ALL RULES IN STUDENT HANDBOOK WILL BE OBSERVED/ENFORCED:
 - Dress code.
 - No profanity
 - No cell phones, iPods, MP3 players or other electronic devices will be permitted unless designated by the teacher for instructional purposes.
 - No food or drink in the classroom.

Discipline:

Disrespectful and/or disruptive behavior will absolutely not be tolerated. Offenders will be dealt with accordingly and immediately.

School Supplies:

Students must be prepared to work at all times; therefore, they must have the following:

- Three-ring binder
- Pens / Pencils / Highlighter(s)
- Notebook paper
- Kleenex
- Dividers
- Post-It Notes
- Ream of copier paper

The decision to take this class is yours – but once you make that decision, you have responsibilities to everyone else in this community of learners.

As a student in this course, I have received a copy of the syllabus and the **Dishonesty Policy**. I have read and fully understand the content, procedures and expectations for English II – PAP. I have also read and fully understand the LHS policies for Make-Up Work and Late Work.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

As a guardian of an English II student, I have received a copy of the syllabus and the **Dishonesty Policy** for this course. I have read and fully understand the content, procedures and expectations for English II – PAP. I have also read and fully understand the LHS policies for Make-Up Work and Late Work.

Parent / Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Contact info (phone / email): _____