

COURSE DESCRIPTION: English II curriculum focuses on various genres: fiction/literary text, nonfiction, informational text, argumentative text, poetry, and drama. To begin and throughout the year, students will review literary elements previously learned and focus on those covered more in-depth this year. In addition, students will practice determining word meanings according to three types of vocabulary: denotative, connotative, and figurative. Vocabulary homework will be assigned. Students will use vocabulary, literary, and reading and writing skills and strategies to analyze text from various genres and present their analysis through the art of rhetoric, demonstrating speaking and writing skills included in the course standards and practiced throughout the year during class discussions. Students will also write, revise, and edit lengthier essays on various topics. As a core subject and in compliance with the TEKS standards, students will complete an assigned project each grading period to assess the student's ability to synthesize information learned and demonstrate creativity, knowledge, and skill through presentation. 9STAAR English is an intensive review for the STAAR English EOC.

PREREQUISITES: All students should have received full credit for English I.

SUPPLIES NEEDED: Students will turn in the English II binder at the end of each semester for a major grade. Students would be wise to keep up with organizing their binders as instructed.

- A 1" binder with inside pockets and front see-through pocket
- 1 package of dividers (*5 tab set)
- 1 package of wide-ruled notebook paper
- #2 pencils
- Blue/black ink pens
- Red/another color grading pen
- One package of highlighters, specifically green, yellow, orange, pink/purple, and blue
- Honors Only:** 1 wide-ruled composition notebook
- Honors Only:** 1 package of Post-it flags/small Post-it notes recommended

***Label set of 5 tabs in order as follows:**

1. Vocab
2. Reading Genres
3. Writing
4. STAAR
5. AR

GOOGLE CLASSROOM: Students will receive an invite to Google Classroom (GC) via their school email. Some assignments will be posted in GC. Check GC when absent.

ATTENDANCE: Texas Education laws state that students must attend 90% of scheduled class meetings to receive credit for the course. Extenuating attendance circumstances are addressed

in the student handbook and with the school's administration. Attendance is vital to succeeding in English II. If a student misses school, it is the student's responsibility to check Google Classroom and the missed assignments folder posted in the classroom. If the student does not understand a lesson/assignment, he/she must contact the teacher to schedule a conference before or after school. The student may also request a tutorial. Thursday tutorials during the activity period will be assigned to students by the teacher when applicable.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: Students involved in extracurricular activities are responsible for getting their assignments **BEFORE** planned absences due to extracurricular events. Students who keep up with assignments during absences demonstrate their ability to handle academics and the extracurricular activities they have chosen, a skill necessary for college readiness.

GRADING POLICY: Major Work	45%
Daily Work	55%

HOMEWORK: Independent work assigned during class that is not completed becomes homework due the following day. All students must read an AR book every six weeks. Honors students have additional reading requirements throughout the school year. Read daily! Vocabulary lessons are assigned one week and due the following week, with an exam at the end of that week. WISD has a "no-zero" policy for grades; therefore, assignments must be completed and turned in on time. Detentions are issued for late or missing work. Multiple detentions result in in-school suspension (ISS). *Note: I am not interested in the student's ability to copy answers from peers, the Internet, or test-practice sites. However, I am interested in assessing what a student knows to prepare him/her for my exams and the English II end-of-course exam. I expect my students to be people of integrity. Ask for help when needed, and accept consequences when work is incomplete or missing. Cheating and plagiarism will result in an office referral and hefty consequences, likely exposing a student to public humiliation among peers.

TEXTBOOKS/NOVELS: Students will be issued a paperback text to use at home if they are absent when lessons require the book. A student may request a class novel for extenuating circumstances (lengthy illness, extended extracurricular absence), and one will be issued **if** there are extra copies. Students may need to find the book on Youtube or other sources when no additional copies are available.

MAKE-UP WORK POLICY: A zero (0) is assigned for any missing assignments (daily or major grades) in the grade book, which should alert the student/parent via the Parent Portal that work is due. I will do my best to enter the grade when the assignment is complete and graded. Since there is a "no zero" policy, a zero is assigned to remind the student to complete and turn in all assignments, schedule a tutorial when needed, or make corrections *when allowed*. Students are encouraged to correct all assignments, specifically any failing assignments. Failed assignments that have been appropriately corrected may receive a grade change of no more than 70.

Students with any zeros in the grade book toward the end of the six weeks grading period may be given detention or assigned to ISS to make up the work.

TUTORING: Students are assigned Thursday tutorials during the activity period at my discretion. Any student who needs to make up work or review an assignment may schedule a tutorial before/after school by contacting the teacher through Remind.

RESTROOM PASSES: Students have only two minutes between passing periods. Therefore, the student must report to class, check in with the teacher, and receive a restroom pass when needed. Students will only be permitted to use the restroom in the art building with permission from the teacher.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS: “It is the beginning of wisdom when you recognize that the best you can do is choose *which* rules you want to live by, and it's persistent and aggravated imbecility to pretend you can live without any.” Wallace Stegner, *All the Little Live Things*

- Be on time: cell phone and/or smartwatch off and in its assigned pocket, supplies and binder at the student's desk, pencil sharpened, and student quickly seated.
- Be polite when others are speaking by actively listening.
- Keep up with filing paperwork in the English binder behind the correct tabs.
- Read daily to expand your vocabulary and avoid a poor AR grade.
- Study for exams.
- Take responsibility for getting missed assignments, making corrections, and scheduling tutorials or conferences.

NOTICE TO ALL STUDENTS:

- Leave excuses at the door.
 - If you didn't do your homework, just admit it.
 - If you don't understand the assignment, ask for help.
 - If you didn't study for the test, accept the grade and resolve to do better (with my help if necessary) next time.
 - If you choose not to follow my rules, you must accept the consequences.
 - I am here for the following reasons:
 - To Teach You
 - To Inspire You
 - To Help You Grow
- I'll do my part; the rest is up to you.

TEACHER SCHEDULE:

1st	7:55 - 8:40	English II
2nd	8:42 - 9:27	English II
3rd	9:29 - 10:14	English II Honors
Activity Period*	10:16 - 10:41	Activity Period: UIL M, T, W, F and /Tutoring Th
4th	10:43 - 11:28	Prep
5th	11:30 - 12:15	Sped Case Manager
6th	12:17 - 12:57	WHS Lunch
Lunch	12:59 - 1:44	Sped Case Manager
7th	1:46 - 2:31	Sped Case Manager

Contact and Technology Information

Phone: HS Office 979-725-3600

Ask for WHS and either leave a message or ask for extension 1225

Email: cmcafee@weimarisd.org

Students must use their school email to contact me.

Students' emails are firstname.lastname@weimarisd.org.

- Remind:** English II 1st period will text @eii-1 to 81010
- English II 2nd period will text @eii-2 to 81010
- Honors English II 3rd period will text @eih-3 to 81010
- 9 STAAR English will text @staarE9 to 81010

Google Classroom: Students must request and respond to a school email invite to enter the classroom if they have yet to sign up during the class period.

Renaissance Accelerated Reader (AR): Students will continue to use the same user ID and passwords from previous years. New students will be issued user names and passwords after their registrations. Students will complete an initial assessment to determine their appropriate reading ranges, which allows the teacher to set reading goals. Additional reading assessments will be given mid-year and at the end of the year. Students will update an AR form in their binders each grading period. AR is a test grade. Students can access AR during school hours via a bookmark on their assigned Chromebooks or by going to weimarisd.org, clicking on the parents and students tab, scrolling down to resources, and finding Renaissance Place.

Chromebooks will be assigned. Students must use their designated computer and be responsible for any damages, should they occur.

Please SIGN AND RETURN it to Ms. McAfee by Friday, August 11, 2023.

I have reviewed this syllabus and understand policies and procedures are in place to ensure my (my student's) safety and success in this class.

Student's printed name and signature

Date

Parent's/Guardian's printed name and signature

Date

Parent's/Guardian's phone numbers:

Daytime

Evening

Email address if you would like a copy