

Christopher High School

English Department

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CHS Phone: (669) 205-5300

ENGLISH I HONORS 2018-2019

Course Description: English I Honors is a rigorous college-prep course for accelerated ninth graders performing above grade level with an exceptional work ethic. It is recommended that students entering English I Honors should have a Lexile score of 1100 or higher. The emphasis is on meeting the Common Core standards through advancing academic literacy. Other goals include academic organization, goal setting, effective cooperative learning, use of technology, and preparation for future Honors/AP courses. English I Honors includes the study of a variety of literary works, college-prep composition techniques, and essential speaking and listening skills. Objectives for this class cover three areas:

- **Analytical Skills:** reading, writing, speaking, listening, research, technology, note-taking, annotation
- **Critical Thinking Skills:** problem-solving, decision-making, reflection, reasoning, creativity
- **Social Skills:** responsibility, collaboration, discussion, and time management

Course Objective: Students will meet and apply the Common Core ELA standards to aid them in future college-prep coursework and to become life-long learners, effective readers, and accomplished writers.

Required Materials to be brought to EACH class:

- Christopher High School Student Planner
- 3-ring binder 1.5 inch
- Single subject, college-ruled, spiral notebook
- 3x5 cards, post-it notes
- 4 different colored hole-punched, pocket folders (plastic is best)
- 1 blue or black pen, 1 pencil, 1 red pen, and four different colored highlighters
- Required texts for class (class novel, SSR book)
- Suggested additional materials: colored pencils, markers, glue-stick

Major Works:

House on Mango Street- Sandra Cisneros

Of Mice and Men- John Steinbeck

Romeo and Juliet- William Shakespeare

Animal Farm- George Orwell

Breaking Through- Francisco Jimenez

The Odyssey- Homer

Death of a Salesman- Arthur Miller

Slaughterhouse Five- Kurt Vonnegut

Call of the Wild- Jack London

Lord of the Flies- William Golding

Joy Luck Club- Amy Tan

The Road- Cormac McCarthy

Note: (Although the school will provide these texts, we strongly encourage students to purchase their own copy.)

Suggestions: We will be using Google classroom and encourage both student and parents to sign-up. We will also be using the following Apps on your phone: Remind.com (See your teacher for an invitation) and Bounce Pages (this is an app that is part of our new textbook.)

HOMEWORK & LATE POLICY: Homework will include a variety of the following: reading, taking notes, studying vocabulary, projects, essays, etc. Students should expect approximately 30-45 minutes of homework per night. *Assignments must be turned in on the day they are due to receive full consideration. Late work will not be accepted* unless there is a **verifiable** emergency, or in the case of a student with an IEP or 504 plan that allows for extra time as an accommodation. Students are given three late passes per semester to use as needed, for a one class period due date extension.

Absences: It is YOUR responsibility to make up any work or quizzes/tests missed due to absence. You will have two class periods for every day missed to make up assignments. If this deadline is not met, the missed assignments will become zeros. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!!** Upon return, please check with your partner, and the "absent" binder first, then approach teacher with any questions. Quizzes and tests not made up in a timely manner (within one week) will become an automatic zero. Teacher will schedule quiz make-ups weekly. Work assigned prior to an absence will not be given an extension, **IT IS DUE THE DAY OF YOUR RETURN.**

AP Prep/SSR: Silent sustained reading is a program designed to nurture and develop students' love for reading and their comprehension skills. Research shows that a key to high test scores is the amount of varied reading and analytical writing students do throughout their school careers. Teachers will assign appropriate, college prep/AP prep novels for students to read in and outside of class. There will be a quarterly book project based on an outside reading book of the student's choice.

Participation: Students are required to participate in class. Participation points are awarded daily for working in pairs and groups effectively, engaging in class discussions, coming to class prepared, and completing class work. Students are expected to earn at least 20 points per week for class participation.

WRITING/PROJECTS: There will be several formal essays and research assignments during the course of the school year. Writing assignments will include journal entries, argumentative essays, narrative writing, and informative/argumentative essays. Written work will be scored using the Common Core Writing Rubrics for Grades 9-10. All formal essays must be printed with black ink on white paper and/or digital copies will be submitted to your teacher.

- Format all documents with one-inch margins, 12- pt. plain font, double-spaced.
- Papers must utilize MLA format.
- Proof read and run spell check!

Test/Quizzes: Tests will always be announced at least three days before a test is given. Students will be quizzed often and sometimes without warning, so be prepared!

TECHNOLOGY POLICY: The use of cell phones and devices during class is permitted only with teacher permission. Earphones are not to be worn or visible in class. On occasion, cell phones and earphones may be used for academic purposes **with teacher direction**. When in doubt about phone use, please ask the teacher! Follow the CHS Personal Electronic Device Policy at all times. Teacher will confiscate your phone if it is seen or heard during class when permission to use it has not been granted.

Behavior: Students in English I Honors are expected to arrive on time (which is *before* the bell) and to be prepared for class. Students should have all materials out and begin the warm-up right away. **Respect** for others is essential for class discussions and a positive learning environment. Your behavior will be reflected in your *citizenship grade*. Planners and/or bathroom passes must be used at all times for leaving class.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Cheating will not be tolerated. Students who either **provide or accept** answers from fellow students on individual assignments will be subject to the following consequences, based on Board policy AR 5131.9

* 1st Offense- grade of zero for work in question, parent contact and discipline referral.

* 2nd Offense- grade of zero for work in question, parent contact and possible suspension.

* 3rd Offense-, grade of zero for work in question, parent contact, and a possible five day suspension.

Plagiarism is defined as the false presentation of another's work as one's own. Students who turn in essays or other written work "borrowed/copied" from outside sources or fellow students are also subject to the consequences listed above.

GRADE BREAKDOWN:

Homework	20%
Assessments	20%
Writer's Workshop/Essays	20%
Class work/Participation/Notebook Checks	20%
Presentations/Projects	20%

Citizenship Grade: Outstanding, Satisfactory, Needs Improvement

COURSE ETIQUETTE:

- Students are expected to arrive on time and to be prepared for class. This means that you are in your seat and ready to focus when the bell rings. Materials and homework should be placed on your desk.
- **No eating or drinking in class** (water and occasional treats from the instructor are acceptable).
- **No gum!**
- Students are expected to remain attentive during instruction.
- Students are expected to remain focused and on-task during group work. This means that you are engaged in the assigned activity, refrain from discussing unrelated subjects, and contribute to the productivity of your group. Students who are off task will follow the steps listed in the teacher's progressive discipline policy.
- Collaboration is recommended and encouraged. However, academic honesty is expected at all times. (See Academic Honesty Policy above). Share ideas, but make the work your own! "We worked together" will never be accepted as a response for identical work. Identical work will be submitted with a referral to the discipline office.
- Students who complete class assignments ahead of others should read their SSR book.
- The free exchange of ideas is key to academic inquiry. Students may disagree with the instructor or their peers but are expected to debate with courtesy and respect. Derogatory language and expletives are not permitted. We may be passionate, clever, witty, and gutsy, but we must also always be civil.
- **The instructor has the right to alter classroom rules as the year progresses or to initiate student contracts, student/parent conferences, and etc.**

****Please retain this course syllabus in your binder for the entire school year. Please sign attached sheet stating that you and your parents have read the course syllabus. Thank you.**

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CHS Phone: (408) 843-4124

Period: _____

Student Name Printed: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name Printed: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Comments or Questions about your son/daughter. Please briefly note any IEP or 504 information here:

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*Classroom Wish List! If you are able to donate any of the following items, we would greatly appreciate it! Please highlight below the item(s) your student will be contributing:

- Kleenex
- hand sanitizer
- standard size copy paper (fluorescent and pastel colors)
- white copy paper (large 11"x17")
- colored construction paper (large sheets 12"x 18")
- paper towels
- fine tip or large Crayola markers
- colored pencils, highlighters
- post-it notes, index cards
- young adult novels or nonfiction that you are no longer reading to share in our classroom library.