

Pre AP English I Course Syllabus

Instructor: Tiffany Medlock

Room #: 110



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Classroom Motto: Your attitude, education, and success are your responsibility.

Course Description:

The following activities and topics are included in our curriculum, which correspond with the Kentucky Common Core Standards.

1. Review of the writing process and Writing Criteria
2. Literary writing such as poetry, short stories, and/or plays or scripts
3. Personal writing such as the memoir, personal essays, and/or personal narrative
4. On Demand writing such as letters, speeches, editorials, and/or articles
5. Reflective writing such as journals, reflective response, and/or response journals and logs
6. Usage and Mechanics
7. Literary reading including short stories, poetry, and drama
8. Informational reading such as magazines, newspapers, Internet sources, etc.
9. Persuasive reading such as editorials, articles, speeches, ads, etc.
10. Practical/workplace reading such as forms, memos, etc.
11. Speaking, observing, and listening activities, such as oral readings, recitation of poem, oral presentations, etc.
12. Research using traditional and technological methods
13. Accelerated Reader Points
 - a. AR points are individualized based on a variety of student assessments.
 - b. AR tests must be passed with an 80% or higher for students to receive credit.
 - c. AR tests must be signed by Mrs. Lake or myself and placed in the student's red AR folder.
 - d. Bring AR books to class daily

Units of Study:

*Language and Mechanics

*Short Stories and Literary Elements including "The Most Dangerous Game"

*Novel and Literary Elements including *To Kill a Mockingbird* as well as other novels
- Students will be asked to complete a variety of projects, written assignments, and class discussions over the novels. These novels will be ready mostly outside of class.

*Informational/Practical/Workplace texts

*Drama and Literary Elements including Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*

*On Demand Writing

*Poetry and literary devices

*Argument/Persuasive texts

Grading Scale:

I will be following the school-wide grading system:

92-100	A
81-91	B
70-80	C
60-69	D
59-below	F

Students will be graded using a point system. The following are various assessments and activities students will receive credit for:

Study of Literature- this includes exams, quizzes, on-demand, open response, group activities, culminating projects.

Writing Assignments- this includes paragraph development, essays, research

Accelerated reader points – points are individualized based on a variety of student assessments

Personal Writing Journal – Students will write journal entries regularly.

Class Book Club: Our class will be having a book club. I will give students a list of novels to choose from. Each student will choose a book of his/her interest. Groups will be composed of students reading the same novel. Once the book is chosen, students will have a couple of weeks to read the book outside of class. The book **MUST** be read by that deadline. When class meets on the scheduled book club day, we will bring food/drinks and discuss our books. The crucial element is that you are able to **DISCUSS** your book. For this reason, students will be provided a “think mark” to keep as they read the book to document thoughts/feelings while reading the book. Students will be required to bring at least one think mark to each book club meeting.

Requirements for book club are as follows:

- Think mark 20 pts.
- Accelerated Reader Test 100 pts.
- Book Club Discussion 100 pts.
- Book Club Summary 30 pts.

Each 9 weeks grade will be calculated as follows:

60% Exams/Summative Assessments

40% homework/ Daily Work/ quizzes/formative assessments

Final (Transcript) Grade

1st Nine Weeks Avg	20%
2nd Nine Weeks Avg	20%
3rd Nine Weeks Avg	20%
4th Nine Weeks Avg	20%
Final Exam	20%

Requirements/Materials Needed:

Students will be required to have a three-ring binder exclusively for my class. Organization is a key life-skill and will definitely be beneficial in college as well as the workplace; therefore, it will be a key practice in my classroom. Students will also be required to have a personal writing journal. Writing is fundamental for knowledge growth and will be a common practice in my class. It is expected that students always come to class prepared with a pencil or pen, English binder, writing journal, and AR book. Coming to class unprepared causes delays for both students and teachers; therefore, students must avoid this practice.

Attendance/Make-up work and Exams:

Attendance policy will follow rules outlined in the student handbook. I DO NOT give make up work. Should a student need make-up work, he or she will be responsible for obtaining that work from the “Daily Assignment Folder” located on the table in the front of the room. Handouts given will be placed in a folder and labeled by the date. I will not remind students to get their make-up work. They must develop responsibility. Only students with an excused absence may obtain make-up work. Students will have five days to make up missed work. Point deductions will begin after the fifth day. Assignments are due on the DUE DATE. Any late assignment will suffer significant deduction. This is non-negotiable.

Tardies:

Our school firmly monitors tardies. All students must be in their seats and working on their bell ringer before the tardy bell rings. Each tardy will be documented with five resulting in office referral/after school detention.

Final Comments:

I have tried to provide an outline for this course; however, extenuating circumstances may dictate some changes. I am excited about this year and am looking forward to meeting and getting to know each of you. I hope you quickly learn that while I do hold high expectations for you, it is because I CARE about you and want you to be successful. I am eagerly anticipating the memories we will create this year. I hope that you will one day reflect upon my class as a positive and memorable year for you. Good Luck!

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Comments/Concerns: