

Syllabus: English I Pre-AP, 2015-16

Foundations of Western Literature and Philosophy

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Conference periods: 2ND & 7th
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Tutoring: 8:30, M-F, and lunch

Welcome to English I Pre-AP. I look forward to a productive and challenging year. All of the class policies are listed below. Please sign with a parent, and return this whole form to acknowledge your agreement to these terms—for ten points—by next class.

Policies

Texts: Texts to be studied this year, in chronological order. I recommend you purchase your own copies; be aware of the relevant translations, shown in parentheses below:

- Fall Semester: the *Odyssey* by Homer (Fagles), *Richard III* by William Shakespeare
- Winter Break: *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho (Clarke)
- Spring Semester: *The Stranger* by Albert Camus (Ward), *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelly
- All year long: *Instant Word Power* by Norman Lewis—a vocabulary workbook
- In addition to various short stories, published essays, and poetry.

Supplies: You will bring all necessary materials to class every day. These include a pen, paper, all currently assigned texts, and the Binder—see separate handout for guidelines.

Electronic Devices: No using phones, computers, or MP3 players during group work, discussions, and lectures; all headphones must be put away. However, you may listen to music while working independently. Each time you use an electronic device without permission, you will earn a five-point deduction from a 50-point Binder/ Productivity grade awarded each 6-weeks grading period. After reaching zero, your device will be confiscated for each class period.

Grades: Grades for this class are calculated on a fraction system. In this system every assignment is automatically weighted. The instructions for every assignment will include the point value for that assignment, thus allowing you to know its value in relation to other grades. A 50-point assignment weighs twice as much as a 25-point assignment.

You are responsible for keeping track of your grades by using TEAMS and requesting your graded work. Remember, many writing assignments could take up to a month to get graded, and might be placed on the subsequent grading period. Record your individual assignment grades on your 6-weeks Calendar to calculate your average. Keep all class papers in the Binder at all times, unless told otherwise. To calculate your 6-weeks' average use the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{TOTAL number of points earned on all assignments}}{\text{TOTAL number of points possible on all assignments}} \times 100 = \text{your average}$$

No extra credit nor make-up work will be offered. Don't ask.

Late Work: All assignments are expected on their assigned due dates at the beginning of class in the correct bin. If you are absent on a due date, the work is expected on the day of your return. If you are on campus but not in class, your work still must be handed in on time. Anything that needs to be printed must be done before school or at lunch, not after the class bell rings. Do not turn in work to my mailbox in the front office. All late work will be penalized by **50%**, no matter how late it is turned in. You will receive one, one-day amnesty pass per semester as a safety net. No work will be accepted after three school days past the due date.

Tardies and Absences: McCallum's policies for tardies and absences are in effect and will be enforced without exception. If you are absent on the day of a test or in-class assignment you will complete the assignment on the day of your return, unless discussed otherwise with me. It is your responsibility to keep track of assignments on the class assignment calendar you miss during your absence and to make up class work. If you forget to make up any graded work, and the late window closes, you will earn a zero. Most assignments and handouts will be posted and available on my teacher webpage for downloading and printing. Use email, communicate with me when absent for arrangements.

Exit Slips: Every six-weeks you will be issued two exit slips. In order to leave the room for any reason—restroom, nurse, office, etc.—you must turn in an exit slip. I will sign the hall pass only upon receipt of the slip. If you do not have an Exit Slip you may not leave the room. On the last day of the six-weeks you may turn in your unused Exit Slips for three bonus points each added to your cumulative grade point total. If you have a medical condition that necessitates your leaving the room more than twice a six-weeks, please bring a note from a doctor or parent stating so. Exit slips will lose value with more than three tardies and/ or unexcused absences.

Cheating: **Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Any cheating will result in a grade of 0 for the assignment for all involved parties with no opportunity to make it up. All cheating will also result in disciplinary action. There are no partial penalties.**

Cheating includes, but is not limited to (**go to plagiarism.org for more info**):

- plagiarism (misrepresenting the words or ideas of someone else as your own)
- cutting and pasting from the internet, as well as paraphrasing uncited work
- copying the work of another student or allowing your work to be copied
- collaborating with other students on individual assignments
- viewing or possessing tests or assignments before they are officially distributed
- discussing questions or answers on quizzes and tests with students in other classes
- forging or omissions of bibliographical sources in research assignments
- forging signatures on any document

Dropping: You may transfer from Pre-AP to Academic English up to the ninth week of the semester. After October 23rd, halfway through the semester, you may not drop from Pre-AP.

Agreement Contract

I, _____, have read and understood this syllabus and agree to
student name

abide by its policies throughout the school year. Signed: _____
student signature

I, _____, have read and understood this syllabus and agree to
parent name

abide by its policies throughout the school year. Email: _____

Phone #: _____

Signed: _____

parent signature