



AGOURA HIGH SCHOOL

Las Virgenes Unified School District

August 2018

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

Welcome to the new school year! I am pleased to welcome you to English II Honors. Sophomore year is a time when students gain an even greater confidence in their transition to high school. Expectations for academic performance and conduct rise and new challenges open doors for personal and intellectual growth.

English II Honors is an advanced course that not only helps prepare students for English III AP but also for college and career life. Throughout this course, students will engage in rigorous learning activities that stretch their reading, analysis, and communication skills. They will craft essays, engage in discussion seminars, organize oral presentations, contribute to group projects, and much more. Students will think critically about British literature and how it relates to our world today. Students will also continue to strengthen oral and written language skills through advanced vocabulary and grammar.

To become successful in this class, students are expected to take initiative in their own academic responsibilities. Within the enclosed English II Honors Course Policies & Expectations, I have provided a list of materials that will help promote effective learning in the classroom. Students are required to have these materials and any required assignments in class daily. I also strongly encourage students to use our classroom website (dmunther.weebly.com) as a tool to stay current with assignments and activities. For regular updates on academic performance, students should visit Aeries.

Please know that I hold very high expectations for my students' conduct and academic growth. On the enclosed document, you will find additional information on course policies, texts, and required materials. Please carefully read the enclosed and return the attached form by the designated deadline.

I am excited to begin a productive and enjoyable year with you. Welcome to English II Honors!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Munther



English II Honors

Course Policies & Expectations

Mrs. Munther

Email: dmunther@lvusd.org

Website: dmunther.weebly.com

Room: V202

Overview

This course is a rigorous survey of British literature from Anglo-Saxon times to the present. Students will learn and perform advanced composition, including timed writings, expository essays, and creative projects. They will demonstrate strong reading comprehension and engage in deep analysis of various classic works of English literature. Students will strengthen written and oral communication skills through the study and application of advanced college preparatory vocabulary and grammar.

Attendance Policy

See the student handbook for school policies; 6 unexcused tardies or 3 unexcused absences result in a drop/fail.

Make-up Policy

- Work may only be made up by students who have an excused absence. Students will be allotted the number of days they were absent plus 1 additional day to make up all work. *All* students, however, are responsible for completing daily assigned readings and arriving to class prepared for any quizzes on covered/assigned material whether or not they were absent the previous class period. This is critical to your success in class.
- Daily Log: Absent students should refer to in-class Daily Log for information on what they missed.
- Tests/quizzes: Immediately upon returning to class, students must schedule an appointment to make up a missed test/quiz.

Athletics & School Activities

Athletes and students missing class for field trips and other school-related activities are expected to submit all assignments by the assignment deadlines. If a student is dismissed early for an activity, s/he must submit the assignment before departing. Furthermore, students must return prepared for class (i.e. arrive prepared for all class activities, assignments, quizzes, tests, etc.)

Due Dates & Deadlines

- Short term assignments: Homework assignments are designed to be used in class the following period. To be successful, it is critical that you keep pace with course content by completing all work on time.
- Long-term assignments: Long-term assignments, such as essays and projects, must be received by the teacher on or before the assignment deadline, *even if absent*. If a student is absent on the day of the deadline, s/he must submit the assignment *via email by the deadline* with no exceptions.

Classroom Expectations

- Responsibility: Be responsible for your thoughts and actions.
- Respect: Display respectful behavior towards yourself and others.
- Rigorous Effort: Give your best.

(Basically, strive for integrity.)

Core Texts

Note: Texts are subject to change.

- *Elements of Literature* (6th Course): *Literature of Britain*
- *StudySync ELA* (McGraw-Hill Education)
- *English Composition and Grammar* (Benchmark Edition, 4th Course)
- *The Guernsey Lit. and Potato Peel Pie Society* (Shaffer & Barrows)
- *Wuthering Heights* (Bronte)
- *Macbeth* (Shakespeare)
- *Lord of the Flies* (Golding)
- *Things Fall Apart* (Achebe)
- Outside reading texts

Core texts will be supplemented with a variety of other fiction and non-fiction literature, as well as a selection of visual and performing arts.

Supplies

The following is required in class daily:

- Editing pen (red or green)
- Highlighters (6 colors)
- Loose-leaf notebook paper
- Pens (black or blue) and Pencils
- Required texts
- Laptop

The following is suggested:

- Binder with tabs: *writing, reading, vocabulary/grammar, and misc.*

Grading Policy

Course letter grades are based upon the following percentages and are non-negotiable:

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>
100-90%	89.9-80%	79.9-70%	69.9-60%	59.9-0%

Course scores are based on the following weighted system:

- Writing 40%
- Literature 35%
- Speaking & Listening 15%
- Language (Vocabulary & Grammar) 10%

As established by AHS English Department Policy, there is no extra credit or rounding up of grades. Example: a 79.9% is a “C+.”

“Speaking & Listening” criteria is on my website for your careful review.

Academic Integrity

ANY form of academic dishonesty will NOT be tolerated. This includes but is not limited to plagiarism (the use of another person’s words *or* ideas without giving credit to the rightful source) and cheating of any kind. (Please also see the Academic Honesty Policy located on the AHS website.) Furthermore, students are required to submit work to turnitin.com.

Academic Assistance

If you need help, ask! I encourage open communication and strongly recommend that you use support period to be successful. I may also be contacted via email or by appt.

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**COURSE POLICIES AND EXPECTATIONS AGREEMENT FORM
English II Honors**

Please complete the below and keep the policies and expectations portion for your reference.

I have read and understand the information contained in the English II Honors Course Policies & Expectations, and I agree to abide by the policies and procedures contained therein.

Student name (printed): _____ Period: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: ___/___/___

Parent/Guardian name (printed): _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: ___/___/___

Additional Information

Parent/Guardian email: _____

Student email: _____

Home phone number: (____) _____ - _____

If there is anything more you would like me to know as it relates to your student’s success in this class, please discuss below: