Welcome to English 1-2 (Honors)

Mr. Pettinari

2019-2020

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***Course Description***

This course is designed for freshman English students who demonstrate excellent skills in writing, vocabulary, reading, and communication. Students enrolled in this honors course will be expected to frequently write well-developed compositions as well as read and analyze a wide variety of literary forms. Strong emphasis will be placed on student composition, vocabulary development, reading, oral communication, and critical thinking. Completing homework is an integral part of the in-class activities for this class.

***Class Expectations:***

I expect students to keep the following in mind:

* Punctuality and preparedness
* Accept responsibility
* Work ethic
* Show respect towards yourself and others
* Able to take risks

***Citizenship:***

* Each discipline office referral will reduce a student’s citizenship grade at least one whole letter, depending on the severity of the infraction.
* Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing will automatically receive an F in citizenship for that quarter.

***Materials:*** Please bring these items to class every day.

* 3-ring binder
* Dividers (notes, writing, passage study, word study, returned papers)
* Free reading book
* Something to write with
* Plenty of paper

***Grade Policy***

Your final is worth 15% of your entire grade. That means that 85% of your grade will be come from assignments that assess your skills. Infinite campus will have three sections. The first section is titled “Skills” and will consist of 85% of your total grade. The second section will be titled “Effort.” This category is worth 0% meaning it doesn’t affect your grade, but it serves as a way to keep track of a student’s work ethic and their participation in assignments that serve as practice to develop students’ skills. If you participate in the practice assignments, your overall grade will benefit. The third category is the “Final” section and that is worth 15% of your overall grade.

***Late Work:***

If a predicament arises and you have to turn assignments in late, I will take it, but it will have a 40% reduction (i.e. a 30-point-assignments that is turned in late will earn 18/30). You have until the end of the quarter to turn late assignments in and receive 60% of the total points. After that period, the assignment cannot be turned in.

An exception to the late policy comes on Major Projects/Major Papers, they will be considered incomplete until they are turned in. These are evaluating your skills and must be turned in or you will earn an incomplete for the course. Don’t worry, I will give you plenty of time in class for all major projects and papers so long as you are in class working, the due dates will be easy to meet. Things emailed to me by the due date are not late so use the technology at your disposal.

***Absences:***

Students must be in class at least 90% of the time to receive credit for this course. This means that if you have five (5) or more unexcused absences in any one class, you will automatically fail that class.

* The district has recently changed its policy in regard to absences. The district now requires students to make-up the classwork they miss within an appropriate amount of time (# of days absent + two days) in order for the absence to be excused. Please ask if you have any questions about the new policy. For more information, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/y8tq5oy6> (English) or <https://tinyurl.com/ydfmkw85> (Spanish).
* Students are responsible for **asking** and **completing** all work that was missed. Check the **Absent Binder** for a daily agenda and handouts from that day.
* **Be sure to write “ABSENT” and include the date of the day on the top of absent work when you turn it in.**

***Tardy Policy***

Punctuality is one of Spanish Springs High School’s core values and is instrumental in preparing students for their future. If you are tardy to this class, please enter the classroom respectfully and avoid interrupting students and the teacher. Tardies will result in a deduction of your daily participation points. If you are late to class, I will make a note of it in your planner. After five signatures, you will be sent to the SRO office. Tardies are cumulative, NOT per course. If you do not have your planner, you will be sent to the SRO office.

***Required Reading:***

All students will be reading from *Elements of Literature, Third Course,* and *Elements of Language, Third Course.* We will also read short stories, poems, and any of the supplemental novels listed below. Please make sure that you look over the list of novels, as several will be studied as a class.

Readings may include, but are not limited to:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * *A Day No Pigs Would Die* | * *Anne Frank* |
| * *Maus* | * *Night* |
| * *Of Mice and Men* | * *Romeo and Juliet* |
| * *Speak* | * *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* |
| * *The Giver* | * *The Hunger Games* |
| * *The Martian Chronicles* | * *The Odyssey* |
| * *The Old Man and the Sea* | * *To Kill a Mockingbird* |

I am excited to work with each of you this year. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time with questions or concerns. I am available most days before and after school if you need to talk to me.

***Students***, please read and discuss the course description for English 1-2 with your parents/guardians. You will keep this description in the front part of your 3-ring binder as a reminder of your agreement to the expectations for this class. I look forward to getting to know each of you!

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **(printed student’s name)** have read and understand the course description and what is expected of me in this class.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**(student signature (date)**

***Parents/guardians***, please read and discuss the course description for English 1-2 with your student. They will keep this description in the front part of their 3-ring binder as a reminder of their agreement to the expectations for this class. I look forward to working with you and your child this year!

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **(printed parent/guardian name)** have read and understand the course description and what is expected of my student in this class.

My child (circle one)  **MAY** or **MAY NOT** read any of the books listed in the course syllabus. Please list any books that your child may not read.

**(parent/guardian signature) (date)**

***Parent Contact Information*:**

* Home phone number: ­
* Work phone number:
* Cell phone number:
* Email address:

What is the best time/way to contact you?

If there is anything that I should know about your student, please feel free to leave a comment here or contact me personally.