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| **English III 24-25**  Instructor: Ashley Johnson  asjohnson@west-fargo.k12.nd.us  701.356.2050 ext. 9324 |

**Course Description:**

Students will engage in the learning process and be instructed in all areas of the English Language Arts & Literacy subject matter. This is including but not limited to: elements of fiction and non-fiction works, required steps and skills of the writing process, grammatical studies, poetry, and dramatic production.

As a member of this course, you will be expected to be a citizen of this class and school community. *Preparation and engagement are essential.* In this class you are expected to **listen, speak, and act with integrity.** You are also expected to honor all individuals in this classroom. Every voice matters and deserves to be treated with respect.

**Course Objectives:**

* By the end of the 2024-2025 school year students will perform and achieve North Dakota English/Language Arts standards at a proficient level, as defined by the state of North Dakota and West Fargo High School.

**Course Logistics:**

* Lesson plans, due dates, and assignment submission drop-boxes will all be available on Schoology.
* All Assignments will be submitted on Schoology (if using paper, take a clear picture of work and submit the picture)
* Emails will only be answered during standard school hours 8:20 am - 3:50 pm (not holidays or weekends)

**Communication:**

* Email is preferred but Schoology also works!
* It is the expectation that you check Schoology daily for all course updates.
* Communicate planned absences with me in advance to coordinate work
* Phone: Voicemails will be checked during school hours

**Grading Scale:** English III will use the standard West Fargo grading scale. Grades will be updated weekly.

**A** 90-100% **B** 80-89% **C** 70-79% D60-69% **F** 0-59%

**Evaluation Components: Areas of Assessment (Formal and Informal)**

* Informal: Daily participation in class,
* Formal: Daily tasks, major writing assignments, analytical and reflective discussions, projects, presentations

**Make-Up, Late / Missing Work, and Assignment Revisions**

Be ready to turn in assignments on time (use Schoology and our posted lesson plans to help with this!)

* Life happens. If you have an extenuating circumstance, communicate with me!
* Students are expected to complete ALL assignments. All late work is due by the end of the unit.
  + LATE WORK: While late work will be accepted for full credit until the end of a unit, the drop boxes will lock 24 hours after the due date. To submit your late assignment for credit, you must sign up for and attend a WIN session—at the win session I will provide you drop box access.
* Missing work will be entered as a “0” until handed in and denoted with an orange flag in PowerSchool. This indicates that the assignment can still be submitted for credit, and the orange flag will be removed when it is no longer accepted.
* If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check what you missed and complete any assignments. Work for absences related to activities must be completed **before** the scheduled absence.
* **Assignment Revisions**: We value learning and striving to improve skills. However, the emphasis should be on improving current skills and aiming for mastery.Conference with me to begin the revision process:
  + *Final assessments:* To revise a final unit assessment / project, all of the unit’s work must be turned in prior to redoing final assessment. In addition, all work submitted must meet minimum expectations (earn at least 60%) to show baseline skill comprehension.
  + *Formative assignments (Daily Activities / Homework):* Torevise a formative assessment, students must attend a WIN session to conference with teacher/ review material. Once this expectation has been met, students can redo the assignment. An assignment can be redone until minimum expectations are met.
  + Any assignment revisions do not take the place of current work (i.e., you must stay engaged in class, complete the current assignments prior to revisions, deadline for current work will not change to accommodate revisions)
  + If you are prioritizing revisions over current assignments (e.g. using class time to work on revisions, missing current assignments due to work being completed on revisions), you may lose the opportunity to complete the revisions for an updated grade.
* You are expected to work on current English assignments in class
* Use PowerSchool to stay up to date with your grade in the course

**In-Class Expectations:**

* Be a good human – be respectful of all people and things
* Remain in your seat unless absolutely necessary
* Leave the space as you found (or better 😊)
* As a member of this course, you will be expected to be a citizen of this class and school community. *Preparation and engagement are essential.* In this class you are expected to **listen, speak, and act with integrity.** You are also expected to honor all individuals in this classroom. Every voice matters and deserves to be treated with respect.

This class will follow all guidelines and policies laid out by West Fargo High School / WFPS, including policies for food and drink, cellphones, and attendance—If WFHS changes/update policies, we follow those changes

**WFHS Food and Drink Policy:**

* + - * No food in hallways: this includes Period 1 and Period 2 breakfasts, and all lunches (purchased from school, brought from home, fast food, take-out, etc.)
    - Food in classrooms must be provided by teacher(s)
    - All drinks must be in a container with non-spill lid
      * Food or drinks NOT in a non-spill lid will be directed to be thrown away

**WFHS Cellphone Policy:**

* + - Students shall not use any electronic device that in any way disrupts or detracts from the educational environment. Electronic devices are inclusive of cell phones, smart watches, earbuds, and school-issued devices.
    - Cell phones must be out-of-sight and out-of-use from the first bell to the last bell of all classes, including during study halls and within flexed learning spaces that are an extension of a classroom.
    - Photographing or recording of another person should be used for educational purposes as defined by the teacher. Any use of an electronic device for other than educational purposes will result in a consequence.
    - Failure to comply with the cellphone policy will result in your phone being confiscated and turned into the office
    - For additional info, see the full policy in the student handbook, or listed at the end of the syllabus.

**WFHS Attendance Policy:**

* + - It is expected that you are in class and on time each day. If you arrive to class after the designated start time for class, you will be marked tardy. Excessive tardiness to a class period (20 minutes or more) will result in a UV for the class period.
    - Every fifth unexcused tardy will convert to an unexcused absence and the student will be assigned one hour of detention. This is per class period and will adhere to the attendance policy.
    - For extended absences, students are required to fill out a green sheet. Without this green sheet, no credit will given for work missed or not submitted during the absence. Details can be found in the student handbook
    - For additional info, see the full policy in the student handbook

**Materials:**

* WFPS issued iPad (and charging accessories), iPad Crayon, books, worksheets, writing utensils, choice reading book

**English Department Cheating Policy:**

The cheating policy follows the WFHS student handbook. This includes a zero for the assignment, an office referal, and notification of the parent/guardian and administrator/counselor.

If caught cheating on a critical and/or common assessment, the critical and/or common assessment still must be completed to have the opportunity to pass the class for the semester. In this instance, a zero will be given for the work; however, the work must be successfully completed for the teacher to evaluate the student’s skills and readiness to move on to the next course. The timeline for successful completion will be arranged between the student and teacher and will be communicated with the parent/guardian and administrator/counselor.

If caught accidentally plagiarizing an assignment (i.e. an essay or research paper), the student will have the opportunity to learn from the mistakes and receive credit for the assessment. Should accidental plagiarism occur, the critical and/or common assessment will be returned to the student for resubmission. The critical and/or common assessment will not be graded until the student has made the appropriate revisions. The timeline for successfully resubmitting the assessment and demonstrating mastery of the skills will be arranged between the student and teacher and will be communicated with the parent/guardian and administrator/counselor. Failure to successfully resubmit the assignment and demonstrate skill mastery will result in a percentage deduction.

The English department recognizes the difference between intentional cheating and accidental plagiarism. Our common definition includes:

* Cheating is the intentional use of someone else’s work being presented as one’s own work (i.e. submitting another student's essay or overuse of AI writing tools).
* Accidental plagiarism is the misrepresentation of another’s work as one’s own (i.e. forgetting a works cited page; not attributing a quotation to the author; not understanding the correct method of paraphrasing a quotation).

With regard to cheating, school policy will be enforced. Remember that cheating is as much a character issue as it is a policy issue.

**AI/ChatGPT Policy:**

AI (artificial intelligence) is an evolving and growing space as I type this. I recognize the tools available to us right now will evolve as the school year progresses. And, I fully recognize that it’s ridiculous for teachers to believe technology like this won’t be available to people in the future. Yes, I was once told that I wouldn’t have a calculator in my pocket by my math teachers when I was in middle and high school – and look how true *those* threats were.

**However**, and this is the important part here, the students in my classroom still need to understand the *why* and *how* behind grammatical structures, spelling, sentence variety, and the myriad of other things real writing does. This happens by *doing the work* and getting “messy” with writing, drafting, and revising.

**Therefore**, unpermitted use of AI in my courses will be considered cheating and will have the same consequences as listed above.

*This AI/ChatGPT policy is new territory and is evolving. It may change to align with English Department, WFHS, and/or WFPS policies. Any changes will be announced.*