

English III

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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.
- Emails will only be answered during standard school hour 8:20 am - 3:50 pm (not holidays or weekends)

Communication:

- Email or Schoology message:
 - In your email/Schoology message, please include your full name, class/period, and assignment title that you have a question on.
 - Email or Schoology message is the best way to get ahold of Mrs. Dingmann
- It is the expectation that you are checking Schoology daily for all course updates.
- 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% **D** 60-69% **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

Late Work/Eligibility

- Students are expected to complete ALL assignments
 - LATE WORK: Daily assignments will be accepted for one week after the due date and then the submission dropbox will be locked. After this one week, you will be required to sign up for a WIN session, discuss with Dingmann why you did not complete the assignment on time, and turn it in during that WIN session. This WIN session must occur prior to the end of the unit. Once the end of the unit passes, you will not be able to turn in any work from said unit.
 - Late work will be marked as a zero with the gold 'Missing' mark on PowerSchool. If you have a zero with no gold mark, you cannot submit the assignment for credit.
 - In class assignments are expected to be completed within the class period. If you choose to work on assignments for other courses instead of in-class assignments, it may result in the outside work being confiscated, or partial / complete loss of credit for the English assignment.
- To be eligible to participate in high school extracurricular activities, learners cannot be failing more than one course and must have zero detention hours. My goal is to always to keep grades updated on a weekly basis.

Larger projects may take longer to grade – please keep due dates and grading time in mind when eligibility is of concern to you.

- You are responsible for keeping track of your progress in PowerSchool

In-Class Expectations:

- Be a good human – be respectful of all people and things
- Remain in your seat unless absolutely necessary. We will not be lining up at the door at the end of the block.
- 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:

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 additional info, see the full policy in the student handbook

Materials:

- WFPS issued iPad (and charging accessories), iPad Crayon, books, worksheets, writing utensils

English Department Cheating Policy:

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

If caught cheating on a critical and/or common assessment, it still must be completed to pass the class for the semester. In this case, a zero will be given for the work; however, it must be completed for the teacher to evaluate the student's skills and readiness to move onto 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 a 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).
- 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, the use of AI in my courses will be considered cheating and will result in a log entry, conversation with the administrator, and a 0 for the assignment with a plan to make up the assignment for half credit.

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.