College Prep English IV and Humanities Syllabus

Central High School

2026-27

Teacher: Cheryl Swick		**Room**: Carlyle 115
Conference Period: 7th Period	**Phone ex:**	**Email**: cheryl.swick@saisd.org

Tutorial Times		
Mornings	**Bobcat Block**	**Other times by**
Tuesday	Monday	**appointment only**
Friday	Friday	

Class Overview:

Across the state of Texas, there are 149,000 graduating seniors who need help with a pathway to a postsecondary credential, whether from a community college or a four-year university. Because of this need, SAISD has adopted the platform, Texas College Bridge, to give graduating seniors a study program to help them achieve success on the TSIA.

In this class, students will take online, individualized college preparation courses with a teacher facilitator. This class will be a hybrid course based on each student's educational needs. You will first take a diagnostic test and a personalized study path will then be created. Some topics will be taught whole-class, some small-group, and some individually by the teacher to aid in your progress through the course.

Texas College Bridge is split into 2 phases, each consisting of 5 units, for a total of 10 units: the averaged score of the units must be a 90. The students will also need to write an original, formal essay, which is pass/fail.

Texas College Bridge is considered a study guide in addition to a course. At the completion of the course in Texas College Bridge, students will take the TSIA test on one of these days.

- October School Testing Day
- December
- February Testing Day
- April
- May

The course Scope and Sequence can be found here. The parent welcome letter is here.

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Humanities:

Texas College Bridge will be layered with a humanities course. Students will work on TCB on Wednesdays only. The rest of the week will be reserved for humanities. That is the course that will get them their English IV credit, so it is very important that all students work in TCB when it's time and get their work done for humanities. In the humanities course, we will be encouraging students to see the world from a different perspective. They will be doing project-based learning, which means they will not be writing essays and taking multiple-choice quizzes (well, maybe a couple); rather, they will use creative means to show mastery of a skill. They will have the opportunity to express themselves through art, drama, poetry, and more to show mastery of the topic. Here is a link to the Texas Education Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for the course.

Daily Materials:

1. District issued device (charged)-- Must bring every day!!
2. Notebook paper or a 3-subject spiral notebook **Everyone needs a spiral notebook or a composition notebook for note-taking. That notebook will stay in the classroom. Students will have daily bell ringers, which will be written in the notebook in addition to the notes they will be taking.**
3. Pens or pencils
4. Folder

Attendance, Tardies, and Hall Passes:

Attendance is taken during the first ten minutes of each class. Per campus attendance policy, if a student arrives late to class but before the ten-minute mark, they will be counted tardy. We are using a new system for recording tardies and making flex sections for activities and passes. It is called Minga. It will sync with PowerSchool to update tardies. We don't know exactly when in the day the two systems communicate, so you may see an unexcused absence that will be changed to a tardy. If **they arrive after the first ten minutes of class have passed, they will be counted absent**, and the time of their arrival noted in Minga. **If you leave the classroom for any reason, you need to create a pass through Minga.** Per campus policy, no passes will be allowed in the first 10 minutes or the last 10 minutes of class.

Grading:

The Texac College Bridge program is not part of the English IV curriculum requirements. Students will work in Texas College Bridge until they take a TSIA test and pass it. Students will only be able to work during class and tutorial times. Students will not be allowed to take a TSIA unless they have completed Stage 1 and have at least completed 33% of Stage 2. If they take the TSIA and pass, they no longer have to work on TCB. If a student finishes TCB and still hasn't passed the TSIA, they will be given lessons in IXL for test prep.

Humanities grades follow the district grading policy. There will be a minimum of 10 minor grades and 3 major grades. Minor grades are worth 40% of a student's overall average, while major grades make up 60%.

Grades will be taken weekly to determine eligibility for UIL and other school activities.

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Academic Honesty:
Academic dishonesty includes cheating or copying the work of another student or AI, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. All major, written assignments will be turned in using the plagiarism and AI checking platform, *Turnitin.com*. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or another supervising professional employee, taking into consideration written materials, observation, or information from students, as well as similarity reports from *Turnitin.com*. Prior to fully submitting an assignment on the platform, the student will have the opportunity to review the generated similarity report and make appropriate edits at no penalty. **A student found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to grade penalties on assignments or tests and disciplinary penalties in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.**

Cell Phone and Personal Device Policy
Last year, the Texas legislature passed HB1481 which governs the use of personal communication devices on school campuses across the state. In alignment with this new law, students will NOT be permitted to use personal electronic devices—*including cell phones, smartwatches, wireless/bluetooth earbuds and headphones, tablets, or gaming devices*—while on any San Angelo ISD campus during the school day. If students bring a device to school, the device should be put away and out of sight for the entirety of the school day

Failure to comply with the cellphone policy will result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension from school and confiscation of said device.