English I
Mr. Edward Bandera-Duplantier
2026-2027
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Classroom: 206H & 212H
English Office: 205H
701.356.2050 ext. 9317

English I Syllabus

General Information

Course Description

English I is designed to help improve a student's ability to think critically about a wide variety of literature, including poetry, short stories, drama, and prose. It aims to strengthen a student's ability to use written language and reinforces their facility to prepare and deliver oral presentations.

Expectations and Goals

Course Logistics:

- Lesson plans will be in the Schoology folder.
- Use email to communicate directly with your teacher.

Communication:

- Email message:
  - Your teacher will try to answer all messages received between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm on weekdays. If messaging outside of contract time, your teacher will respond as soon as possible.

Participation and Expectations:

- Students are expected to complete ALL assignments
  - Late work will be entered as a 0 until handed in. All late work is due by the end of the unit, after which the 0 will remain and credit will not be given.
- Students are expected to work while in class.
- Students are not allowed to work on assignments for another class.
- You are responsible for keeping track of your progress in InfiniteCampus.

Course/Instructor Expectations

This is your education, your class. I have the privilege and responsibility of guiding you through this curriculum, however, you must take ownership of your learning. Here are a few ways to start you on that path:

- You are expected to be in your seat with your materials when the bell rings. If you are not in your seat you are tardy. If you are not prepared and do not have all your materials, you are tardy.
- The bell doesn't dismiss class, I do. Do not pack up your belongings and materials unless given permission.
- No one is to crowd or open the door before the bell.
- If you need to leave the room submit an Securely to be approved. Only one person will be allowed out of the room at a time. Bathroom and water fountain use is limited to independent and group work time. No one may leave the room in the first or last twenty minutes.

Be your own advocate. Ask questions. Communicate absences and needs in advance**General Policies and**

Procedures:

Course Logistics & Communication

- Lesson plans, due dates, and assignment submission drop-boxes will all be available on Schoology.
- Emails will only be answered during standard school hours. On Mondays—Fridays, I will be available from 7:50 a.m.-3:40 p.m. Emails received over the weekend and/or holidays will not be responded to until the work week resumes.
- Email is the preferred and easiest mode of communication when you need help or clarification.
    - Email: ebandera-duplantier@west-fargo.k12.nd.us

- It is the expectation that you are checking Schoology daily for all course updates.

Materials:

- **Daily:**
    - WFPS issued iPad (and charging accessories)
    - WFPS issued Logitech crayon
    - Books
    - Writing utensils/organizational materials/planner

Grading Policy

Grading Scale: English I will use the standard West Fargo grading scale. Grades will be updated weekly. My goal is to always keep grades updated on a weekly basis. Larger projects and writing assignments may take me longer to grade (I usually communicate that to learners).

- **A** 90-100%
- **B** 80-89%
- **C** 70-79%
- **D** 60-69%
- **F** 0-59%

Missing Work/Late Work Policy

- Homework will be marked as "missing" and entered as a zero until it has been completed. Due to the length of certain units, "blackout dates" will be assigned throughout it. A "blackout date" indicates that an assignment is no longer worth credit after that date and will remain a zero. These dates will be communicated early and often.
- If you are submitting an assignment late before the "blackout date," you **must** communicate via email to me **and** parent/guardian that you have submitted your assignment and a plan of action of how to avoid a late submission in the future. Your assignment will **not** be graded until you have sent this email to me with your parent/guardian included on the same email.
- Any planned absence, whether personal or school-related, must be communicated to me ahead of time. Please send me an email with the dates that you will be gone, and I will work with you to get you the necessary resources and materials ahead of your absence.

Additional notes about grading:

- If an assignment is marked with a late indicator (red) – it was turned in late.
- If an assignment is marked with a missing indicator (orange) – I'm missing it and it needs to be turned in. I'll clear the indicator soon after you have sent the required email (please see above) and submitted the assignment.

WFHS English Department Cheating and Plagiarism Policy

The cheating policy follows the WFHS student handbook. This includes a zero for the assignment, a PACK referral, 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 successfully completed in order 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 in order 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 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.

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 have the same consequences as listed above. I am here to help you to be successful in my class and am happy to meet with you to discuss any course assignments, study strategies, and other academic matters. I want you to be able to think critically, be analytical, and be creative in your work in my class. Since the goal is for you to develop your critical thinking skills, ideas, and critical perspectives on the class materials, the use of any artificial intelligence (AI) content creation tool/system (e.g. Jasper, ChatGPT, Bard, etc.) is not permitted. If you have difficulty with an assignment, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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.

West Fargo High School Cell Phone Policy

Beginning with the 2025–2026 school year and continuing this year, West Fargo Public Schools will implement a new procedure regarding student use of wireless personal communication devices during the school day in compliance with Senate Bill 2354. This state law requires all school districts to adopt policies that prohibit the use of personal electronic devices—including cell phones, smartwatches, tablets, and laptops, etc. during instructional hours. This restriction applies from the start of the school day to its conclusion and includes common areas such as hallways, the lunchroom, and other shared spaces. **To summarize, students will not have access to cell phones, smartwatches, and other personal devices from the start of the school day to the end of the school day, including lunch time and passing time between classes. This is now a state law.**

- Learner cell phones, smart watches, and all other personal devices that can send and receive messages are OUT-OF-SIGHT and OUT-OF-USE from 8:25a until 3:35p.
- Devices CANNOT be kept on your person (in a pocket, etc.). They must, at a bare minimum, be kept in a CLOSED backpack pocket. Devices can also be left in your car, at home, etc.
- Devices CANNOT be utilized or checked during passing times, lunch time, or Open Campus if you chose to remain on campus.
- If you choose to leave the classroom to visit the nurse, go to the bathroom, etc., your backpack (with your phone inside) STAYS IN THE CLASSROOM.
- It is the student's responsibility to secure their electronic devices to show care for their technology devices and personal information. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items or individual service plan charges related to use of electronic devices.
- Students are expected to respect the network and adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) when using school-issued devices. Students will be expected to access the district's Wi-Fi network via their iPad during designated school activities unless connections are unavailable.
- 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. Messages and photos on an electronic device are subject to viewing by administration given reasonable suspicion of a crime or school infraction.

West Fargo High School Cell Phone Procedure

- *First Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the student at the end of the student's day
- *Second Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience, not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day
- *Third Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience, not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, behavior plan assigned to the student
- *Fourth Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience, not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, 1 day ISS
- *Fifth Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience, not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, 1 day OSS
- *Sixth Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, transition to Virtual Program for the at least the remainder of the semester

Additional Technology Policy

- Headphones/ear buds are not allowed during classroom discussions, direct instruction, or exam prep. The course and your peers require your full attention during these times. However, headphones/ear buds are permitted during independent work time or independent reading time.

West Fargo High School Food and Drink Policy

- No food in hallways
- This includes 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

West Fargo High School Attendance Policy
Visit this link WFPS Attendance Policy for a detailed policy.

- **Absences**
  - Automatic alerts at the end of the period for each UV to families
  - Automatic alerts sent at 5 and 7 absences
  - Family c ontact by admin when nearing 10 absences to discuss contract
  - Will involve teachers if the student is passing most classes
  - Take daily, accurate attendance
  - Administrator is following up with call down list daily

- **Tardies**
  - In Mr. Bandera-Duplantier's classroom, you must be in the classroom and ready to learn when the bell rings at the start of the period.
  - Every fifth tardy is recorded as a absent in InfiniteCampus. .
  - After 20 minutes have passed since the start of class, the student will be marked absent in InfiniteCampus.

Ms. Beatrice Hill
bhill@west-fargo.k12.nd.us
Classroom: 208H & 112C, Office: 205H

AP Literature & Composition in 208H (1A, 2.1A, 3A)
Grad Support Program in 112C (1B & 2.1B)
Prep/PLC Bock in 208H or 205H (4A & 4B)

PACKER PROCESS

P — PREPARE FOR LEARNING

- Be seated when the bell rings.
- Review the day's agenda slide for your first task and have the necessary materials ready.
- Bring your best self to class.

A — ASK FOR HELP

- Review Schoology for lesson plans, assignments, and due dates.
- Sign up for my WIN session!
- Email is the preferred method of communication (bhill@west-fargo.k12.nd.us)

C — COLLABORATE WITH OTHERS

- **Listen, speak,** and **act** with **integrity** and **empathy.** You are expected to honor all individuals in this classroom. Every voice matters and deserves to be treated with respect.

K — KEEP TRACK OF ASSIGNMENTS & DEADLINES

- Review Schoology for lesson plans, assignments, and due dates. If it is a physical/paper copy of the assignment, this will still be indicated on Schoology.

E — ENTER AND EXIT THE CLASSROOM APPROPRIATELY

- Be seated when the bell rings.
- Review the day's agenda slide to start that day's first task and have the necessary materials ready.
- Do not line up at the door before the end of the block.
- E-hall pass is required to leave the classroom. Any unexcused tardies over 20 minutes count as a UV.

R — RESPECT SCHOOL & CLASSROOM RULES

- Review the daily agenda slide, return any classroom supplies to their appropriate places, check your space before leaving and throw away any garbage.
- No cell phones/smartwatches from 8:25 a.m.-3:35 p.m. Backpacks remain in the classroom.
- Plagiarism and use of AI will not be tolerated and is considered as a form of academic dishonesty.

S — SUBMIT WORK

- Most assignments will be submitted via Schoology dropboxes. If it is a physical/paper assignment, you will turn it in at the start of class at the front of the room. If you are submitting an assignment late, you MUST email me AND your guardian before I will grade it.