English II Syllabus

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Classroom: 210H Office: 205H Prep: 2A and PLC: 1B

Course Description:

The focus of this course is to improve in the areas of writing, reading, speaking, listening, critical thinking, and comprehension. Students will be exposed to various genres of fiction and non-fiction via whole-class reading units. We will also complete a variety of writing activities with narrative, informative, and argumentative structures.

Course Objectives:

- Students will improve their reading, writing, analysis, comprehension, and public speaking skills.
- Students will be able to identify literary elements at work.
- Students will write in a variety of genres and contexts.
- Students will explore issues of social injustice while conforming to the standard practices and rules of MLA research-based writing.
- Students will improve their interpersonal and small group communication skills.

Course Requirements:

- A composition notebook, wide or college-ruled
  - If you cannot purchase one, please see your teacher immediately.
- Folder for work
  - If you cannot purchase one, please see your teacher immediately.
- Writing utensils (pencils, pens, or mechanical pencils)
- Charged iPad and charger

Course/Classroom Logistics:

- Assignments and other important information will be available to students in a variety of ways (paper copies, posted on Schoology, or both).
- Always bring all needed materials with you to class. Your iPad should be charged and ready to go. You are responsible for having your own charger.
- **Grade Breakdown:** A = 90-100%, B = 80-89%, C = 70-79%, D = 60-69%, F = 0-59%

Communication:

- **Class Updates/ Changes:**
  - I will communicate with you using Schoology, email, and announcements made in class.
- **Email or Schoology message:**
  - rued@west-fargo.k12.nd.us
  - I will attempt to return all email and Schoology messages by the end of the school day. Messages sent after the school day is over or during the weekend will be responded to the next school day.

- **Infinite Campus:** Grades will be updated each week on Thursday by 4:00 PM. Larger projects/writing assignments and make up work may take longer to grade.

Late/Incomplete Work:

- All deadlines will be communicated to students in class and will be posted on the board in the classroom as well as on Schoology.

- **Late Policy/Procedure for Online Assignments:** If you have a late online assignment that you want to turn in for a grade, you must email both teachers and your parents stating what assignment you have turned in. Assignments will only be graded if you send this email to all required individuals.

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- For the research paper, late work due dates are posted on the calendar. The process steps must be completed prior to the next step. For example, brainstorming charts must be turned in before the CER paragraphs; CER paragraphs must be turned in before the rough draft; rough draft must be turned in before the final, etc.

- **Missing work**: Daily (formative) assignments must be turned in by the **end of the unit** to receive credit. Final assessments (summative assignments) must be turned in on the Black Out Date (BOD) in order to receive credit. The BOD will be one week after the original due date. Worked submitted after the BOD will NOT be accepted.
- Students who are missing work or behind on reading may be required to attend WIN sessions.

Units Covered:

Semester 1	Semester 2
Unit Zero	Argumentative Research Paper
Of Mice and Men: Fictional Literature	Creative Writing Unit
Injustice Lit Circle Unit	*Oedipus the King*
Just Mercy: Nonfiction Literature	Coming of Age Lit Circle and Presentation
Innocence Research Project and Presentation	

WFHS Attendance, Cell Phone, and Food/Drink Policy

- Details for all the school-wide policies can be found on our WFHS website and the link is provided below. These procedures are also posted in the Welcome Folder in Schoology. **Per state legislation, cell phones are prohibited from being visible during the school day.**

Rules and Procedures Family Presentation.mp4

English Department Cheating 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 (per teacher discretion) 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 **or using AI**).

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.