Honors English I + English I Syllabus

Hello Parents! I am excited teaching at Southwest Guilford High School and starting a new school year. My name is Mr. Mashamas Allah and I will be teaching your child for the rest of the semester. Below you will find the course procedures, expectations and grading scale. Please do not hesitate to email me at [**Allahm@gcsnc.com**](mailto:Allahm@gcsnc.com)

**Course Description:** English I provides a deeper study of literary genres (novels, short stories, poetry, drama, literary nonfiction). The broad scope of literature and the depth at which students study literary genres that create the opportunity for independent study and advanced analysis. It should include inﬂuential U.S. documents and one Shakespearean play.

**Vocabulary:** Every Friday the students’ will receive 10 vocabulary words. It is their job to study these ten vocabulary words for their vocabulary quiz, Vocabulary quizzes and new vocab are given every Friday.

**Course Materials:**

Composition Notebook

3 ring binder

Pencils and Pens

Loose Leaf Paper

Highlighters and Markers

**Grading Scale:**

90-100 A

80-89 B

70-79 C

60-69 D

59 or below F

**Grade Distribution:**

Tests/projects 40%

Quizzes 20%

Classwork 25%

Homework 15%

**Tardy Policy**

1st tardy – warning

**Expectations**: I have high expectations for all of you. I expect proper decorum inside, as well as outside of the classroom. This includes:

* Being respectful of everyone and everything
  + DO NOT TALK while the teacher is talking!
  + Respect everyone’s opinions and arguments.
  + Keep all hands, feet, objects, and negative comments to yourself!
  + Leave all your drama outside of room A-217.
* ABSOLUTELY no electronic devices!
* Be a good listener, grades will be docked for not listening
* Being an active participant in class by trying your best
* Being on time to class
* Being organized
* Being prepared with proper materials
* Being responsible by keeping up with all handouts
* If you don’t understand always ask!
* Have a positive attitude toward learning.
* No food, drinks, or gum unless specified by the teacher.
* No other class work is to be worked on during English class except for English work.
* Turn in all work on time.
* Use your brain before speaking or acting!
* When you need to leave your seat for any reason you MUST raise your hand (bathroom, sharpen pencil, throw trash away, water, etc.).

**Consequences for Negative Behaviors:**

1st Infraction: Verbal Warning

2nd Infraction: Lunch Detention

3rd Infraction: Parent Contact[[1]](#footnote-1)

4th Infraction: After School Detention

5th Infraction: Office Referral[[2]](#footnote-2)

**Late Work**

**Quizzes/Tests:**  Students are *always* encouraged to turn in quizzes, essays, and projects, early right up to the final date that I will accept late work. However, for every day that a project/assignment is late, points are lost.

**Class Work/Homework:**

ALL assignments are expected to be completed and turned in on time to obtain the maximum benefit of learning. Points will be deducted for late work Be responsible!

**Make-up Work**

If students miss tests, quizzes, and/or assignments because of absences, it is their responsibility to find out what they missed and arrange a time and method of making up that missed work. Assignments and notes will also be on the back table in the classroom. You will have **3 days** to complete the missing assignments. If you need to make-up a test or quiz, please see me to make arrangements.

**Academic Integrity**

Academic honesty is essential. Cheating, plagiarism, or other academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Any student who is confirmed to be cheating will automatically be given a zero on that assignment. This includes copying and/or plagiarism on written assignments. The ability to redo, rewrite, requiz, or retest is at my discretion, depending on the nature of the infraction.

**Turning in Assignments**

Class work should be turned into the appropriate basket at the end of the class period. Homework should be turned in at the beginning of the period. Assignments with no name will receive points off. Some assignments may be required to be submitted digitally. Be sure these assignments are submitted by the posted deadline and are in the proper format(s).

**How do Zeros Affect My Grade?**

One **zero** and **one 100** average to a **50**. That's failing.

One **zero** and **two 100s** average to a **66.7**. That's a D.

One **zero** and **three 100s** average to a **75**. That's a C.

One **zero** and **four 100s** average to an **80**. That's a B.

One **zero** and **five 100s** average to an **83.3**. That's still a B.

**\*It takes NINE 100s to get an A after receiving only one zero.**

**The Point= TURN IN ALL YOUR ASSIGNMENTS!**

**Parent Contact**

Parents please feel free to contact me [**allahm@gcsnc.com**](mailto:allahm@gcsnc.com)

**Classroom Policies, Procedures, and Expectations**

Mr. Allah’s class

The following policies, procedures, and expectations are in effect at all times:

Entering class:

* Be on time.
* Enter the classroom quietly, respectfully, and immediately.
* Prepare for the beginning of class:
  + Turn in any assignments that are due; follow the turn-in procedure described below.
  + Get your daybook, textbook or core novel, and independent reading book and put them on your desk.
  + Get out your pencil or pen and put it on your desk. If you need to sharpen your pencil or get pencil lead from a classmate, do it before class begins. Mr. Greene does not have pencil lead for you; you may borrow a regular pencil from the blue supply drawers and return it at the end of class.
  + Put away all items not needed for this class. (This includes your cell phone, headphones, and work for your other classes.)
  + Be in your assigned seat before the bell rings.
  + Follow any instructions shown on the board or the projector.
  + THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO ASK MR. GREENE QUESTIONS
* **If you arrive late**:
  + You must sign in using the tardy sheet posted to the RIGHT of the door.
  + You are considered tardy if you are:
    - Not inside the classroom before the tardy bell BEGINS ringing.
    - Not in your assigned seat before the tardy bell rings
  + Going to the restroom is not an excuse for being late.
  + If you are late because you were with another teacher, you must have a signed note with time and date in your possession when you arrive. If you do not have this note, you will be considered tardy.

During lesson/instructional time:

* Please remain seated unless otherwise instructed. If you absolutely must leave your seat while Mr. Allah is teaching, please raise your hand and wait for permission.
* Please speak only when appropriate. Raise your hand to ask or answer questions, and make sure that any question or comment is on the same topic that is being taught. Unnecessary off-topic questions and comments are class disruptions. Students who constantly disrupt class will be sent to in the hallway
* **No one will be allowed to use the restroom while Mr.Allah is teaching**. Please do not interrupt the lesson to ask about going to the restroom. You may use the restroom during independent work time.
* No one will be allowed to leave class to conduct business with guidance, administration, or another teacher unless called out of the class by the front office.
* Do not work on homework or classwork assignments for any class (including this one) while Mr. Allah is teaching.
* Participate in the lesson. Take notes, ask questions, discuss, follow along in the text, and learn.
* You may not sleep. A discipline paragraph may be assigned.

Independent work:

* Independent work should be done independently. Giving or receiving help on any assignment in any way that is not explicitly permitted by the teacher is academically dishonest and will result in a zero on the assignment.
* Do not talk during independent work. If you need to speak to Mr. Allah raise your hand first. With each infraction, points will be deducted from the assignment.
* Stay in your seat unless otherwise instructed. Please raise your hand if you need to leave your seat.
* You may use the restroom during independent work; however, you will not be given extra time to complete assignments, so please plan your restroom break so that it will not keep you from completing classwork.
* Work only on what has been assigned. Do not work on assignments for other teachers until you have finished the work that has been assigned for this class.
* **When you finish:** turn in your work; work on other assignments for this class; read; ask permission to work on assignments for another teacher’s class.
* You may not sleep. If you are asleep in class, you will receive a zero on the assignment and It cannot be made up.

Group work: **If Mr. Allah assigns the groups, they are non-negotiable.** Group work in Mr. Allah’s classroom is essential, however; sometimes students treat group work time as social hour time. Because of this, Mr. Allah’s class will operate on a three strikes system. When assigned the group work students should:

* Move quickly and quietly to the group assigned to you when instructed to do so.
* Talk only to members of your group.
* Talk quietly so that other groups can also work and hear each other. Only your group should be able to hear you.
* Stay in your group’s assigned space. Do not wander around the classroom.
* Stay on task. Group work is not a time for socializing. A group will receive one warning for being off task.
* Group work should be done cooperatively. Any member of the group who is off-task (working on assignments for another class, on the phone, sleeping, socializing, etc.) will be removed from the group and be required to complete the entire assignment independently. Submitting the work of just one person with everyone else’s name on it (or having all group members copy one person’s work) is academically dishonest and will result in all group members receiving a zero.
* **When you finish**: turn in your work (if appropriate) to the turn-in box or designated location; work on individual work for this class; read; ask permission to work on assignments for another class. Remain seated and quiet.
* When group time ends, straighten desks and clean your group’s area, then return quickly and quietly to your seat.

Quizzes & tests:

* Clear your desk of all materials except for a pencil/pen unless otherwise instructed.
* Remain seated for the duration of the quiz/test.
* Remain silent. Students who talk during a quiz/test (even after they have finished) may receive a zero or be required to take a different version of the quiz/test after school.
* Use your time wisely. No extra time will be given for a quiz/test unless you have an IEP/504 plan that indicates extended time on assessments.
* No one will be permitted to go to the restroom during a quiz or test.
* Read carefully and follow all directions on quizzes/tests.
* If you are absent on a day when a quiz or test is given, **you must make the test up within one week of the test date.** Absences prior to the quiz/test do not excuse you from taking the test.
* You may not retake a quiz. Retaking a test may be allowed at the teacher’s discretion. Retests, when allowed, will be a different form or type than the previous test.
* **When you finish**: turn in your quiz/test. You must remain seated and quiet until everyone has finished.

Bathroom policy:

* **No bathroom passes will be given while Mr. Allah is teaching**—no exceptions. .
* There are only two bathroom passes available per quarter.
* Bathroom visits should be brief. Students who are gone for an unreasonable amount of time (in most cases, more than 5 minutes) WILL NOT be allowed to leave the classroom again.. If you are ill and expect to be in the restroom for more than 5 minutes, please inform Mr. Greene that you are feeling ill before you leave the classroom.
* Use the restrooms that are closest to our classroom. If you are found to be out of the appropriate area (going to office, another teacher, etc.), you will be considered skipping and will receive an administrative referral. You will also not be able to leave the classroom.
* Students should not be visiting other teacher’s classrooms on their way to and back from the restroom. If this happens and I am informed, the students will not be able to use the restroom.

Technology policy:

* Students should put all electronic devices away in their book bags or purses upon arrival to class, where the devices should remain for the duration of the class period unless otherwise instructed.
* Per SWGHS policy, personal electronic devices may not be charged in the classroom during the school day for any reason.
* On the rare occasions that Mr. Greene instructs students to use their personal devices for a class activity, students must be on-task and appropriate in their use of the devices. Off-task uses of personal devices will be considered a violation of the technology policy.
* Students who violate the technology policy may have their devices confiscated and turned in to the office.
* Students who attempt to use their personal electronic devices during a quiz or test will be considered cheating; the device will be confiscated and the student will receive a zero on the quiz or test.

End of class:

* The bell does not dismiss this class. Mr. Greene dismisses this class.
* Do not begin packing up until you are instructed to do so. Packing your belongings while Mr. Greene is teaching is disrespectful. I will stop and wait until all noise has stopped. Repeated instances may result in disciplinary action.
* Remain seated until dismissed by Mr. Greene. Do not line up at the door to wait for the bell.
* Clean up the area around your desk before you leave. Throw paper, aluminum cans, and plastic bottles in the recycling; all other trash goes in the trash can. Take your personal belongings with you. Straighten the desk rows. Return classroom materials to their correct places.
* Once dismissed, leave respectfully, quickly, and quietly. Do not begin shouting, pushing, or behaving in a disruptive manner just because the bell has rung.
* If you choose to stay after dismissal for any reason, **Mr. Greene will not write you a note** to excuse you for being late to your next class. (The only exception to this is if Mr. Greene asks you to stay behind.)

Turning in work:

* Put your first and last name, class period, and date on everything you turn in.
* Any paper turned in with no name will be thrown away—no exceptions. If you turn in a paper with no name and it is thrown away,
* All work must be turned in on the day it is due during this class period.
* **Late work**:
  + An assignment is late if you do not have it physically present with you in class at the time at which it is due. Having left it at home/in your car or being unable to find it in your book bag until the end of class are not acceptable excuses.
  + **Process grades** (homework and classwork) will NOT be accepted late.
  + **Product grades** (projects, presentations, final drafts of writing assignments) will be accepted late within 1 of the due date with a flat 25 point reduction of the grade earned. (This means that a project that would have earned a 100 is only eligible for a 75, an 80 will only be eligible for a 55, and so on; therefore, if you are turning in a project late, it is very important that it represents your very best work.) After 1 week, the assignment will no longer be accepted for any credit.
* **If you are absent on the day that a project or essay is due**, you should make every possible effort to turn it in online, via email, or by sending it with another student. If you make every effort and are still unable to get your assignment to Mr. Allah, it will be accepted without penalty ONLY IF your absence is considered excused by the attendance office AND you provide a letter explaining the effort you made to turn in your work on time and why it was not possible for you to do so, which must be signed by you and your parent. If your absence is unexcused or you do not provide this letter, your work will be subject to the late penalty.

Academic Honesty

* “Students shall not engage in any act of deception or falsification of work product. This includes cheating by receiving any unauthorized aid or assistance or the actual giving or receiving of unfair advantage on any form of academic work, plagiarism by copying the language structure, idea and/or thought of another and representing it as one’s own work, and a verbal or written statement of untruth.” (GCS Student Handbook 2017-2018, p. 23)
* Consequence: Zero on the assignment for all involved parties; administrative referral for disciplinary action
* Academically dishonest actions include but are not limited to:
  + Copying the work of another student (on any assignment type) and submitting it as your own work
  + Allowing another student to copy your work and submit it as their own
  + Paying or otherwise persuading another person to complete an assignment for you and submitting it as your own
  + Completing an assignment on behalf of another student and allowing that student to claim the assignment as his/her original work
  + On quizzes or tests, giving or receiving access to the quiz or test outside of the testing session, such as by taking or receiving a picture of the quiz/test or removing a copy of the quiz/test from the classroom
  + Giving or receiving assistance of any kind from another person on completing quiz/test items, such as sending or receiving answers in text messages, signaling verbally or nonverbally during the quiz/test, attempting to view and copy a classmate’s responses to a test (or enabling a classmate to view your own responses)
  + Copying content from the internet (either by hand or by copy-paste on the computer) on any assignment without providing appropriate source citations in the text and in the works cited page

Absences & Make-Up Work:

* Guilford County Schools Attendance Policy (summarized from GCS Student Handbook 2018-2019, ):
  + You must be present for at least 45 minutes of the class period to be counted present.
  + You do not have to make up time for your first three absences per class per quarter.
  + **Beginning with your fourth absence per class per quarter**, you must make up 45 minutes for each absence.
  + **If you do not make up your time, your quarterly grade for that class may not exceed a 59**. If your grade is lower than 59, it will remain as it is.
  + Excused absences must be made up just like unexcused absences.
  + Time may be made up after school or in Saturday school. Students must make up 45 minutes for each absence after the third. Make-up time can only be served for one teacher at a time (meaning that you cannot stay with one teacher for 45 minutes and count it towards multiple classes simultaneously).
* Any work **assigned prior to your absence** is due as soon as you return to school. If you were here when it was assigned, you must turn it in on time or incur a late penalty.
* You are responsible for picking up, completing, and turning in your make-up work. Not picking up your work is not an excuse for not turning it in.
* Absences due to severe illness, suspension, or academic and family travel: If you know in advance that you will be absent (i.e. for a field trip, college visit, family vacation, planned medical procedure, etc.), you should request your work prior to your absence. If you will be unexpectedly absent for an extended period of time (i.e. suspension, sudden severe illness, family emergency, etc.), you may contact the school office, and work will be placed in the office for you or a family member to pick up so that you may do some of the work while you are absent. This will minimize the amount of work that you will need to make up after you return to school.
* Complete and turn in the work by the date indicated on the assignment. If no date is indicated, your work is due on your third day back at school. (Example: If you return to school on a Tuesday, your work is due Thursday.)
* Any work not turned in by the third day back at school (or the due date specified) will be considered late. (See policy for late work, below.) The work is still due on this day, whether Mr. Greene remembers to ask for it or not.
* Missed quizzes and tests must be made up after school within one week of the original quiz/test date. You will be given a different version of the quiz/test. Quizzes and tests may only be made up after school; you may not come in before school, during lunch, or during Mr. Greene planning for this.
* Absences prior to a quiz/test do not excuse you from taking the quiz/test. If you are present on the day of the quiz/test, you must take the quiz/test on that day. A retest may be granted at the teacher’s discretion.

After school:

* After-school time may be used for making up work, quizzes, or tests missed during an absence; making up time for excessive absences; receiving one-on-one or small-group instruction for class content or help with major assignments; or discussing your grades. You may also be assigned after school detention for behavior infractions.
* Mr. Allah’s after school schedule by prior appointment only
* A late bus is available for students who stay for **academic purposes** on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
  + If you are in need of a bus pass on one of these days, you must inform your teacher no later than noon of the previous school day.
  + If you sign up for a bus pass, you must show up and stay for the entire tutorial period. If you fail to report to tutorial after school or leave tutorial early, you will not be allowed to get on the late bus.

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Parent Signature Date

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Student Signature Date

1. The student may be removed from the room

   2. Non-compliance and fighting automatically receive office referrals [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)