

English II Syllabus

Instructor: Mr. Bratton

School Year: 2018-2019

Instructor Email: brattoj2@gcsnc.com

Tutorial Schedule: Wednesday 4-5pm (Other times can be arranged by appointment.)

Rules and Norms:

1. **Be respectful to yourself and others at all times.**
Respect is defined as being cognizant and considerate of others' beliefs/opinions, learning styles and property. It also means adhering to rules of classroom etiquette and reasonable requests made by the instructor(s). Examples of these will be explained at the beginning of the semester.
2. **Be punctual and prepared.**
Students will be considered tardy if they are not in the classroom at the end of the bell (This includes students who have been waiting/socializing just outside the doorway). Students should not have to run to arrive on time. Upon the ringing of the bell, students should find their seat and take out any necessary materials needed for class participation.
3. **Obey food restrictions.**
Students will be permitted to have water and gum in the classroom. Any other food or beverages are prohibited unless otherwise informed by the instructor(s). *Necessary exceptions will be made for students with health conditions.
4. **Obey all school rules and regulations.**
Students must adhere to all district and school policies while in the classroom. This includes (but is not limited to) the dress code and technology use policy.

Academic Expectations:

Following these expectations will increase students' likelihood of success in this course.

1. **Be properly equipped.**
Students should come to class with all materials required for class. Although the instructor may provide some supplies on occasion, he is required to do so.
2. **Put forth effort in all work assigned.**
It is essential for students to actively engage in instructional activities (reading, writing, performing, etc.) in order to achieve a high level of success. Listening attentively, participating in discussion, and asking questions are a few fundamental strategies to assist students with learning as well. Be assertive...Ask questions!
3. **Be aware of your own progress in class.**
Students should know their grades at different intervals throughout each quarter. Although instructors may distribute several progress reports throughout the semester, they are only required to do so on a few designated dates. As such, the responsibility of grade awareness falls to each individual student.
4. **Schedule additional time when needed.**
Everyone learns differently; consequently, some students may require additional time/assistance on some assignments or to grasp certain lessons. Unfortunately, this time may not always be available during normal school hours due to the number of students in a given class or the pacing of the course. **Tutorial for this class is Wednesday 4-5pm or by appointment.** Students are expected to make the necessary arrangements to meet the instructor(s) outside of class to meet these needs.

Grading Scale

The following table reflects the assignment weights for this course.

1. Classwork/Homework	25%
2. Quizzes	25%
3. Tests/Essays/Projects	50%

Make-up Work

It is the student's responsibility to obtain any missed work as a result of an absence or tardy. Students are expected to submit assignments at the appropriate deadlines. Late work will be accepted without penalty if the **assignment was late because of an excused tardy or absence**.

Other late work will be accepted; however, **fifteen** (15) points will be deducted for each day the assignment is late up to three (3) days. After three days, the student will receive a zero (0) for the assignment.

Supplies

1. 3-ring binder w/ pockets and dividers
2. notebook paper (college-ruled)
3. pencils AND pen (blue or black ink only)
4. Index Cards (50-100c)
5. Highlighters (Various colors)

Plagiarism Policy:

Cheating in any form will not be tolerated in this class. Do not take another's work and claim/pretend it is your own. Do not copy and paste a paper found online and claim it is your own. Remember, the instructor will see countless writings from you; any assignment that does not look like your normal style and level of writing will stand out. Ultimately, cheating and plagiarism is a choice that you, the student, make. You are smart enough to know the difference between your words and those of another. Hold yourself to a higher standard and always take responsibility for your action.

The following is taken from the GCS Handbook and will be enforced:

"Rule 3. Cheating – 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. Consequences: ISS [or] up to 3 days OSS. Zero on assignment" (Guilford County Handbook).

Additionally, the teacher will contact a parent to help foster honesty in the future.

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. Students who miss more than three days will owe make up time. It is the student's responsibility to follow up with the teacher about missed work due to absences. Failure to do so will communicate the student's acceptance of zero credit for the missed grades.

Make up time must be completed with Mr. Bratton (i.e. If you missed time in this class, it must be made up in this class.). Certain circumstances may require time to be made up with another teacher, but it must be approved by Mr. Bratton prior to serving that time. School policy per quarter is as follows and must be completed by the end of the quarter:

- Up to 3 absences (excuse or unexcused) = no time owed
- Each additional absence after the 3rd, = 30 minutes/absence owed

Remediation:

There will be no retesting in English courses. Students who require additional assistance should attend tutorial at the set time at the top of the syllabus or at a time agreed upon with the instructor. Because the English department does not allow students to retest, students are strongly encouraged to attend tutorial prior to a scheduled test (or other assignment that counts as a test grade).

Remediation is offered as at the end of each quarter to any student who is failing a course. **Apex Learning (apexvs.com)** is an online classroom program that provides units covering various skill and concepts for students to receive additional instruction. It also provides assessments that students will be required to complete. Students may recover a passing grade of a "D" (60) by completing all of the **assigned** units on Apex with an overall score no lower than 60%. This must be submitted within the quarterly acceleration time frame to be given by the instructor. At the end of each quarter, students who have not achieved mastery will be placed on a Personal Educational Plan. The English Department will prepare recovery to support the learning and recovery experience. Completing remediation **will not count** towards make up time. That must be made up separately.

Grading Period Information:

The dates for the end of each grading period are listed below (Dates may change as a result of inclement weather or other events that affect the district's calendar):

1. October 31 – end of first grading period
2. January 17 – end of second grading period
3. March 27 – end of third grading period
4. June 7 – end of fourth grading period

Course Content

The following is a tentative list of topics, themes, works, etc. that will be covered in this course. This information may not be approached in the order shown and is subject to change.

1. The Hero and the Quest (6-8 Weeks)
 - a. Excerpts from *The Epic of Gilgamesh*
 - b. “The Book of Ruth”
 - c. Various Articles
 - d. Excerpts from (or complete epic of) *The Inferno*
2. A World of Opposites (6-8 Weeks)
 - a. “The Fisherman and the Jinnee”
 - b. Excerpts from “Genesis”
 - c. Excerpts from “The Qur’an”
 - d. Various Nonfiction Articles
3. Beauty and Love (10-12 Weeks)
 - a. Defining beauty
 - i. Student video
 - ii. Various nonfiction articles
 - b. Myths – Narcissus
 - c. *Cyrano de Bergerac* by Edmond Rostand
 - d. Various Poems
4. Human Rights (10-12 weeks)
 - a. Defining human rights
 - i. United States of America Declaration of Independence
 - ii. United Nations Declaration of Human Rights
 - iii. UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
 - b. Genocide
 - i. Defining Genocide – Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide
 - ii. *Night* by Elie Wiesel
 - iii. *Maus* by Art Spiegelman

(Please cut along the dotted line)

I, _____ (print student name), have read this course syllabus and understand the rules and expectations set forth by the instructor. I will do my best to adhere to these expectations and work diligently to achieve success in this course.

(Student Signature)

(Date)

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

(Date)