Course Expectations

*English I Honors*

**Instructor: Mr. Bayer**
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**Course Scope:**

This one-year course emphasizes the study of language, literature, and composition. The skills of critical thinking, reading, writing, listening, and speaking will be developed. A variety of literary and expository selections that will serve as models for writing will be used for the improvement of reading strategies and literary interpretation. Instructional practices will incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course will fulfill the English I requirement for high school graduation.

**Course Goals:**

1. To comprehend, build, and extend vocabulary.  [NS:  1.12.4]
2. To use and apply appropriate before, during, and after reading strategies to build comprehension.  [NS:  2.0]
3. To comprehend, interpret, and evaluate a variety of reading selections including a broad range of contemporary and classic fiction, nonfiction, drama, and poetry.  [NS:  2.0, 3.0]
4. To identify literary elements and stylistic devices and evaluate their purposes.  [NS:  3.0]
5. To develop an awareness and appreciation of other cultures and literary history.  
   [NS:  3.0, 4.0]
6. To respond to a variety of written and oral communications. [NS: 3.0, 4.0, 6.0, 7.0, 8.0]

7. To apply the five stages of the writing process: prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. [NS: 5.0]

8. To write descriptive, narrative, expository, and persuasive compositions. [NS: 6.0]

9. To think logically and critically and to apply those skills in new learning situations. [NS: 6.0]

10. To develop library and research skills to produce a research paper. [NS: 6.12.9]

11. To develop effective listening and speaking skills. [NS: 7.0, 8.0]

12. To develop study and organizational skills.

**Textbooks**

The following text(s) will be utilized in this course:


**Student Supplies**

Students are expected to have and maintain the following supplies all year:

1. Textbook(s)
2. Binder (with extra paper)
3. Journal
4. 2 pencils (preferably #2 pencils)
5. Pen (Black or blue – no other color is accepted)
6. Homework (if applicable)
7. A good attitude

**Tardy Policy**

Tardiness is a serious disruption to the educational program. **Every student is required to be in his/her seat when the tardy bell rings.** With that in mind, the Legacy High School Tardy Policy will be strictly enforced. On the first tardy, the student will be warned; on the second tardy, the parent will be contacted; on the third and all subsequent tardies, the student will be sent to the deans’ office and placed on a Required Parent Conference. In addition to the Legacy Tardy Policy, Legacy will utilize a Tardy Lockout System.
Grading Policy

Grading Scale:
- 90% - 100% A
- 80% - 89%  B
- 70% - 79%  C
- 60% - 69%  D
- Below 60%  F

Description of Grading Procedures:
- ★ Classwork  20%
- ★ Homework  20%
- ★ Tests / Quizzes  15%
- ★ Participation  10%
- ★ Journal  10%
- ★ Projects  25%

Classroom Participation Impact on Grade
- ★ Classroom participation is 10% of your grade. **Participation is NOT just coming to class every day!** Participation means you attend class regularly, take notes, keep your work up-to-date, raise your hand to answer questions, volunteer to read, work as a group member, and in general contribute to the class in some manner other than simply sitting in your seat.

Notebooks
- ★ Notebooks are to be kept up-to-date. The easiest way to keep a notebook is to have it as a 3-ring binder, although any book that can have papers added to it is acceptable. Papers simply placed in a book or in a folder are NOT acceptable. Notebooks will have the following sections (in the following order):
  - ★ Notes
  - ★ Vocabulary
  - ★ Tests / Quizzes
  - ★ Returned Work
- ★ Notebook checks are done twice a quarter. The notebook check is equal to a test grade.

Homework
- ★ Homework will be given for a variety of reasons:
  - ★ Memorization so that skills can become rote.
  - ★ Increasing skills so students can apply skills to more complex problems.
  - ★ Deepening understanding of a topic.
  - ★ Preparation for the following lesson.
- ★ Homework will be given after most classes, but it will be of a nature that it will not take more than 20-30 minutes to complete.
- ★ Some opportunities may arise to allow students to start homework in class, but this will be the exception rather than the rule.

Semester Grades:
- 40%  Quarter 1/3 Grade
- 40%  Quarter 2/4 Grade
- 20%  Semester Examination
Standards of Preparation: Spelling, grammar, neatness, and adherence to standards of preparation will have an impact on the grades received. While a few mistakes are to be expected at times, any work that is filled with spelling errors, grammatical or technical errors, or is generally unreadable will be returned to the student to be redone. Any redone work will be penalized by one letter grade.

Make-up Work, Late Work, and Attendance

- Make-up procedures – (As per NRS and CCSD Regulations and Policy 5113)
  - After any absence, a secondary student is required to initiate contact with the teacher(s) to obtain appropriate makeup work within three school days immediately following the absence.
  - Once contact has been made with the teacher(s), specific makeup work must be completed and returned to the teacher(s) within a reasonable length of time, to be determined by the teacher and communicated to the student/parent or legal guardian.
  - The makeup work must be returned to the teacher(s) by the specified due date if it is to be acknowledged.

- In the classroom, this translates into:
  - After an absence, students will be expected to check with the instructor for any work they have missed.
  - Students must obtain make-up work within three days of an absence, unless other arrangements with the teachers are made.
  - Students are responsible for getting/requesting make-up work and scheduling before or after school.

- Hours of Availability- The instructor is available from 6:30 a.m. to the start of school and from 2:05 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on a daily school basis. Please be aware that parent conferences, club activities, etc. may alter this schedule, so appointments for special assistance and other such things must be made 24 hours in advance.

Attendance
After the seventh unexcused absence, students will be denied credit and will receive an “F” for the course.
Classroom Behavior Expectations

- Classroom Behavioral Expectations
  - Expected Behavior (before class)
    ★ Students sit at their desks and get out materials needed for class, including homework from the previous night.
  - Expected Behavior (during class)
    ★ All students are respectful of each other and each other’s property.
    ★ All students are respectful of instructor and instructor’s property.
    ★ Students raise hand to ask questions.
    ★ One student out of the room at a time (pass needed). If you need to go to the bathroom or something similar, do not ask in the middle of the lesson. Please wait for an appropriate break point and then you may ask.
  - Expected Behavior (after class)
    ★ Students leave class in an orderly fashion (walk please!)
    ★ Please make sure to take all materials with you when you leave. Unclaimed items go to the office at the end of the day.
  - The progressive discipline plan is:
    ★ First infraction – Verbal warning
    ★ Second Infraction – Verbal warning; possible detention; phone call home.
    ★ Third Infraction – Detention, phone call home, referral to counselor
    ★ Fourth Infraction – Detention, Parent conference, referral to dean.
    ★ Fifth and beyond – Dean referral
    ★ Remember, respect is the name of the game! To get respect, you must give respect!
  - Tardy Students
    ★ You are tardy if you are not in the room and at your desk when the bell rings. In the room and at your desk does not include running down the hallway, hand on the doorknob, etc. Your body is physically in the room and sitting at your desk when the bell STARTS ringing, not when it ends.
    ★ All students arriving after the bell must sign the tardy logbook, located near the door.
    ★ Tardy discipline
      o First Tardy – Warning
      o Second Tardy – Possible detention and phone call home
      o Third Tardy – Detentions and phone call home; possible parent conference.
      o Fourth Tardy – Referral to the counselor; detention and phone call home; parent conference
      o Fifth Tardy – Referral to Dean; phone call home.
    ★ If a student is tardy more than 30 minutes of class it is an absence.
  - Other Items
    ★ Absolutely NO food or drink in the room (bottled water only)! It attracts ants, cockroaches, earwigs, scorpions, spiders and other undesirable creatures.
★ Passes are given to the nurse and restroom only. Passes are NOT given to visit other teachers. **One student out of the room at a time.**
★ Candy and gum are not permitted in class for the reasons given above. Plus, they tend to create a sticky mess regardless of how careful you are.
★ All personal property is the responsibility of the student. School property that is given to a student is the student’s responsibility to care for and return when requested. Lost textbooks and other materials will result in fines.
★ No nuisance items. Nuisance items can and will be confiscated. Nuisance items include, but are not limited to: walkmans, headphones, gameboys, pagers, skateboards, basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, hackeysacks, pictures and photographs.
★ Note on cell phones: CCSD policy allows students to have cell phones, iPhones, etc. but they must be turned to either OFF or SILENT during class time. Cell phones and such that go off during class will be confiscated.
★ Sharpies are not allowed. Highlighters are ok.
★ White-out is not allowed.

- Citizenship
  ★ Citizenship is determined by **behavior** and **participation**. To be a good citizen, you must be **involved** and **well-mannered**. As such it is linked to your participation grade as such:
    - 9-10 participation points = O
    - 6-8 participation Points = S
    - 3-5 participation Points = N
    - 0-2 participation Points = U

**Endnote**
This class is all about learning, trying, and finding new ways to communicate. If you are prepared to participate, do classwork and homework, and be organized, success will be within your grasp. Do not be afraid to try new words, new ways of saying things, or writing in a new way; this is, after all, how you learn. Beyond that, if you are afraid, you might say “Why try? I might fail.” I say, “You might succeed!”
Please complete this page, remove from packet and return to school by September 26, 2008.

Occasionally your child will be asked to view movies that are used to supplement the curriculum. Most of these videos are “G” rated—for general audiences; some films however, are rated “PG”—parental guidance suggested. In order for your son or daughter to view a movie, your permission must be given. Please indicate your preference, sign and date this form below.

☐  **I give** my child permission to view “PG” rated films.

☐  **I do not give** my child permission to view “PG” rated films with the understanding that an alternative assignment will be given.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____________________________________

Date: _________________________

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**Acknowledgement of Course Expectations**

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We have read and discussed the course description and expectations.

Student’s name [last, first]  Student’s Signature

Parent Name  Parent Signature

Home phone  Work/Cell phone

Email Address: __________________________________________________________