



Bentonville West High School

Pre-AP English II Syllabus

2026-2027

Instructor: Mrs. Lauren Williams

Room: 1503

Email: lawilliams@bentonvillek12.org

Website: sites.google.com/bentonvillek12.org/williamsenglish

Additional Communication:

- Check grades and attendance on [Home Access Center \(HAC\)](#) for up-to-date information. For questions or support, email bwhshomeaccess@bentonvillek12.org.
- Each class has a **Google Classroom**, and all instructional materials and assignments will be available through the platform. It can be accessed from home as well as at school. Parents will be invited via email to receive weekly updates through Google Classroom.
- **Email** is the best way for students and parents to contact me. I will email parents using the information listed in HAC unless contacted and asked otherwise.

Class Schedule:

A Day

1st: Dept. Prep
2nd: Pre-AP English II
3rd: Pre-AP English II
4th: Pre-AP English II

B Day

5th: Strategic Reading II
6th: Advisory/Flex
7th: Prep
8th: Strategic Reading II

Course Description: [Arkansas English Language Arts Standards](#)

While English I introduces the fundamentals of close observation, critical analysis, and the appreciation of author's craft, English II requires students to apply those practices to a new array of nonfiction and literary texts. As readers, students become aware of how poets, playwrights, novelists, and writers of nonfiction manipulate language to serve their purposes. As writers, students compose more nuanced analytical essays while never losing sight of craft and cohesion.

The Pre-AP English II curriculum has four units. Each unit is approximately nine weeks:

- Unit 1: Moves in Argument
- Unit 2: Persuasion in Literature
- Unit 3: Research & Synthesis
- Unit 4: Purpose in Poetry & Prose

Quarter End-Dates:

- Unit 1: Wednesday, October 14, 2026
- Unit 2: Tuesday, December 15, 2026
- Unit 3: Friday, March 19, 2027
- Unit 4: Tuesday, May 18, 2027

Grading Procedures: This class utilizes a form of standards-based grading that charts a student's growth over the course of a semester. Student work will be graded and assessed based on their mastery of the semester's standards, through the use of formative assessments.

Be aware that due to the nature of measuring growth, grades tend to start out lower and grow as the semester progresses. A grade of 3.5 in a standard at the beginning of a semester is expected. If a student is already showing mastery of a new skill, they do not need to be taught it.

My grading scale is different from what your students are used to, and it is likely different from what guardians are used to. If there are any questions or concerns about the grading scale, please do not hesitate to reach out to me via email, phone, or in person. It will be thoroughly explained to your student in class and reinforced over the year.

Overall Grade	Individual Standard Grade
A: 90 - 100	5: Exceeding: Above 10th grade mastery
B: 80 - 89	4.5: Proficient: At 10th Grade mastery
C: 70 - 79	4: Close: Mastery with notable errors
D: 60 - 69	3.5: Progressing: Some mastery but requiring further teaching
F: 0 - 59	3: Developing: An attempt at mastery was made
	2.5: Incomplete: No attempt at mastery was made
	0: Not turned in / Not attempted

Note: A student's grade will only drop into failing if they are not doing their work. When you observe your student's grades, please note that any failing grade is an indication that the student is consistently not finishing or turning in work.

Additionally, students will receive feedback in HAC (Home Access Center) on the achievement of learning habits at least quarterly. Learning habits assessed will be time management and engagement in learning. Students will receive marks of either DC (Demonstrates Consistently), IC (Progressing, but Inconsistent), or NY (Not Yet, Rarely, or Not Observed).

Home Access Center/eSchool: To get your HAC account password, email bhshomeaccess@bentonvillek12.org.

The links to access grades or set up HAC are:

- <https://hac40.esk12.ar.us/HomeAccess40/Content/Register/Default2.aspx>
- <https://www.bentonvillek12.org/Domain/4805>

Please note the following codes that may appear in HAC:

—	A blank grade indicates that the assignment is added to the gradebook, but individual grades have not yet been entered by the instructor.
X	The student is exempt/excused from doing or making up that assignment; an X entry does not negatively impact the average.
N	The assignment has been graded, and no work was received from the student; the student may still make up the work for credit. An N is calculated as a zero (0).
Z	The assignment has been graded, and no work was received from the student, AND the student may no longer turn in the assignment for credit. A Z calculates as a zero (0).
L	The student submitted the assignment after the deadline.

Make Up Work: Students who are absent are responsible for checking Google Classroom for any missed lessons and assignments. Students have the number of class periods they were absent to turn in make-up work. If the student is absent for an assessment (quiz or test), the student must make it up during Flex. If an assignment has been announced before a student is absent, the student must be prepared to turn in the work (projects or papers) or complete the work (quizzes and tests) the day they return to class (including absences for school business). Make-up work that is not turned in becomes Late Work.

Late Work Procedure:

- [BWHS Late Work Procedure](#): Please read this document regarding Bentonville West High School's late work procedure. This procedure will be followed in Mrs. Williams' classroom.
- If a student needs more time than is allowed with the late work procedure, the [Extension Google Form](#) must be completed. The option to accept, reject, or modify the request is at the teacher's discretion, as well as the extension length. **Only 2 extensions may be granted per class, per semester.**
- If the student does not complete the extension form and does not turn in the EOL by the due date, then the student will receive a zero for that assignment.

Class Rules and Procedures:

- We work hard each day; please do your best to ensure you are on time and present! In accordance with the handbook, the 5th tardy will result in a detention.
- For policies on Academic Integrity, Dress Code, Attendance, Discipline, etc., please see the [High School Student Handbook](#). All students are responsible for knowing and following these policies.
- BWHS 15-15 Rule: Students may NOT leave class for the first 15 minutes and the last 15 minutes of class (unless called out by the deans, counselors, or front office).
- Per Bentonville Schools policy, students will take a comprehensive semester exam at the end of each semester during the designated semester exam days.
- As long as the building/district rules allow it, you may use personal computers. However, if students begin to misuse them, they will be required to use their district-issued Chromebooks. Utilizing any chat/messaging system will qualify as misuse.
- Required Materials (bring every day):
 - Chromebook & charger
 - Binder (1-1 ½ inches)
 - Lined notebook paper
 - Pencils/pens
 - Highlighters

Classroom Library Notice: Parents/guardians, our classroom library contains a variety of reading levels and content. If you are not satisfied with a book choice your student makes, please speak with your student so they may make appropriate choices for your household.

Bell to Bell, No Cell:

- [Act 122](#)
- [Bell to Bell, No Cell](#)

AI Policy: We embrace the use of AI programs in our classroom as a means to enhance our learning experiences. However, it is crucial to maintain the integrity of our academic work and follow ethical guidelines. By adhering to [Bentonville Schools AI Policy](#) and the [AI Guide](#), we can harness the power of AI to support our educational journey responsibly and effectively.

Community Service Learning: The Arkansas LEARNS Act states that students MUST complete 75 community service hours by the end of their senior year (exceptions may apply; see ADE DESE). Students in this course will earn 3.0 hours of Community Service Learning toward their graduation requirement this year. These assignments are integrated into the curriculum and mandatory for all students regardless of prior service hours. Our goal is to help students meet this requirement as a natural part of their coursework while at BWHS.