



English I Honors

Brittany Harbin
Sevier Middle School
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Class Website: <https://sites.google.com/greenvilleschools.us/harbin/home>

Planning Time/Extra Help

Planning time is 2nd period (9:04 to 9:49am) and 3rd period (9:52 to 10:37)

Help is available before and after school with prior appointment, during office hours, and anytime by email.

Course Description

This is an honors level course for academically gifted students who have the ability to pursue an accelerated English program. These students are preparing for Advanced Placement or dual credit English (college level courses) in high school; therefore, the coursework will reflect more rigor than other English courses for this grade level. Literary study includes all genres, and students will be required to read extensively from texts with a wide range of complexity. Non-fiction readings will include literary criticism as well as political essays, memoirs, and historical texts. Grammar and usage skills will be reviewed through lessons throughout the year. Students should expect major essay assignments on a frequent basis and for writing skills to constitute a large percentage of the final grade. The rigor of this course will prepare students for the EOC testing in English II and future Honors or AP/dual credit English courses. Students will receive Honors weighting for this course.

Enrichment

Students will participate in enrichment sessions lasting from three to four weeks each. The sessions are nearly every Friday morning during the school year. See the school's website for details.

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Supplies

In the classroom, the students are asked to have the following items to be brought daily to be considered as "prepared":

1. Pack of pencils (#2 wood or mechanical) - each student must have a pencil daily in class.
2. 1 one-inch binder
3. Notebook dividers to leave in the one-inch binder
4. Charged laptop computer: One will be provided to each student (see policy on the school website) and notes below.
5. Earbuds that the student must bring to class daily. Do **not** buy earbuds just for English class- they can be used in multiple classes.

Textbook: Houghton Mifflin & Harcourt Into Literature Grade 9

MAJOR READINGS – in addition to other selections from literature text

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

The Odyssey by Homer

The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare (Textbook)

Individual choice novels (from a list of choices provided by the teacher)

[Sevier Middle - Master List of Full-Length Texts Used for Instruction :: 2026-2027](#)

(It is good to have personal copies of novels to mark- although students may generally borrow school copies or be given a digital copy to read..)

*****NOVELS WILL BE ASSIGNED AS OUTSIDE CLASS READING*****

Classroom Conduct

Students are expected to maintain an atmosphere of respect at all times. When students enter the classroom, they are expected to immediately retrieve the required materials and proceed to their seats. Students will read quietly for the first 10 minutes of

class every day. Arriving tardy to class is disruptive and interrupts the learning process. Excessive tardies will be dealt with in accordance with the rules in the student handbook. Dress code violations, zero tolerance issues, profanity, fighting, or direct insubordination will face immediate disciplinary action.

Grading Procedures/Policies

Students are expected to do their very best on all assignments throughout the grading period regardless of their current grade average in the class.

Grading Scale:

A 100-90

B 89-80

C 79-70

D 69-60

F 59-0

Major Assessments (tests, projects, workbooks) and Compositions = 60 %

Minor Assessments (quizzes, class work) = 40 %

New Board Policy states that ALL students can receive a grade below 50%; therefore, there is no longer a grade floor policy for either individual grades or quarterly/semester grades. Students can and will receive the grade earned on the work submitted. Both NHI (Not Handed In) and MDA (Missed Due to Absence) grades will code as a 0 until the assignment is received and graded - please see Makeup Work/Late Work/Retake Policies below for further guidance.

Makeup Work/Late Work/Retake Policies

Please see this [link](#) for guidance on both the makeup work/late work and retake policies for Sevier Middle School.

AI Expectations

The use of District-approved AI tools is at the teacher's discretion based on specific learning goals and content standards.

Unauthorized student AI use on assignments is considered a violation of the Behavior Code and will be treated as plagiarism under Board Policy JCDA.

To protect and encourage individuality and genuine student work, the use of AI for all assignments in this course will be PROHIBITED. Students need to be able to develop critical thinking, summarizing, writing, editing, and revising skills and the use of AI diminishes the ability to develop those skills independently, as such, there is no use for it in this course.

Laptop Expectations

Students must charge their devices each evening. If the battery dies during the day, it may not be possible to charge it at school. Students will still be responsible for work missed if the device is not charged. Repeatedly failing to have a charged device and thereby hindering a student's ability to participate in class could result in disciplinary action.

Standards:

The Scope and Sequence for your course(s) are to reflect South Carolina State Standards and can be found at:

<https://eoc.sc.gov/sites/eoc/files/Documents/FFStandards2018/English/ELA/FFStandards.HighELA.pdf>

Course Outline:

Unit One: *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Literary Analysis

Unit Two: *The Odyssey* Epic Poem Analysis;

Unit Three: The Tragedy of Romeo & Juliet; Drama Analysis

Unit Four: Literature Circle Choice Novel; Literature Analysis

[Middle School Landing Page](#)

Grammar and vocabulary development is embedded into each unit of study

I look forward to working with your student this year! Should you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me.