



SPRING VALLEY  
HIGH SCHOOL  
*A Palmetto Gold Award School*

120 Sparkleberry Lane  
Columbia, SC 29229  
[www.richland2.org/svh](http://www.richland2.org/svh)  
Palmetto's Finest School

# English 1 Syllabus Spring 2024

## Teacher Information:

**Name:** Sarah L. M. Pellerin

**Email Address:** [spellerin@richland2.org](mailto:spellerin@richland2.org)

**Phone Number:** 803-699-3500 ext. 69255

**Webpage**

**Planning Periods:** 1st and 2nd

**Room:** D-219

## Communication:

All Richland 2 schools will be using the [ParentSquare app](#) for home communication. Please set up your account at your earliest convenience to ensure receipt of all messages. If you would like to make an appointment for a conference or tutoring (in-person, virtual via Google Meet, or via phone), please use <https://spellerin.youcanbook.me/> to schedule a time that best suits your schedule.

## Course Description:

At the freshman level, students receive an introduction to literature and a general overview of literary genres and authors. The curriculum is designed to address state standards through emphasis on print and nonprint literature and informational text. Students are introduced to effective reading strategies, the writing process, the research process, and vocabulary and language development. In addition, students will use listening and speaking skills to communicate effectively, deliver formal presentations, and demonstrate a command of standard American English.

Students will be completing multiple assignments and projects requiring various online tools for which they will often need to create accounts. Please notify me immediately if you have any concerns regarding the use of online tools requiring individual accounts. Internet safety will be emphasized in all online class activities.

From time to time, you may feel the need to get extra help. In addition to Spring Valley's Tutoring and Testing Center, I am available (by [appointment](#)) for teacher-student/parent conferences and tutoring before school or during lunch. It is the student's responsibility to schedule conferences or tutoring ahead of time. If you have questions or concerns regarding the course structure or individual assignments, please consult Google Classroom, call me at 699-3500 ext. 69255, email me at [spellerin@richland2.org](mailto:spellerin@richland2.org), or contact me via ParentSquare.

## State/National Standards URL Address:

- [South Carolina College- and Career-Ready \(SCCCR\) English Standards](#)

### Richland School District Two Honor Pledge

On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this assignment. I understand that any violation of the Richland School District Two honor code will result in academic and discipline action.



SPRING VALLEY  
HIGH SCHOOL  
*Palmetto Gold Award School*

120 Sparkleberry Lane  
Columbia, SC 29229  
www.richland2.org/svh  
Palmetto's Finest School

## Material Supply List:

- **Fully-charged** school-issued Chromebook
- 1-2 Dedicated Composition Books (INB = Interactive NoteBook)
- #2 Pencils (mechanical preferred; if you opt for traditional wooden pencils, please bring your own pencil sharpener as well)
- Black and/or blue ink pens
- Headphones/earbuds (**please have on hand at all times--and an adaptor, if necessary!**)
- Something **analog** to read during Silent Sustained Reading or when finished with work
- **Recommended (but not required)**: pens and/or highlighters in various colors; sticky notes and/or index cards; and/or Personal Kleenex and hand sanitizer (please note: these items are **NOT** guaranteed by the teacher)

**Textbook Name:** *Collections, 9th grade\**

**Replacement Cost:** \$96.95

\*In addition to the textbook supplied by SVHS, various class novels will be distributed throughout the year. The replacement costs of these novels will vary depending on current market price. Any lost or damaged class novels will be the responsibility of the individual student.\*

## Scope and Sequence:

### First/Third Quarter:

- Argument and Persuasion (speeches, advertisements, political comics); argument writing
- Literary Elements in Short Stories (including but not limited to "Marigolds" by Eugenia Collier and "The Scarlet Ibis" by James Hurst, "The Cask of Amontillado" by Edgar Allan Poe, and "Harrison Bergeron" by Kurt Vonnegut)
- Poetry Portfolio and Concurrent Novel Study: [\*Between the Lines\* by Nikki Grimes](#); narrative writing
- Independent Reading (with project)

### Second/Fourth Quarter:

- Shakespearean Tragedy: *Romeo and Juliet*
- Epic Poetry: Homer's *The Odyssey*
- Hero's Journey: [\*Copper Sun\* by Sharon Draper](#)
- Information Literacy and Research Strategies (Artificial Intelligence) and Concurrent Novel Study: [\*Feed\* by M.T. Anderson](#)\*; informational writing
- Independent Reading (with project)
- Summative Reflective Portfolio Project and Final Exam

\*Due to mature themes and language, [\*The Last Book in the Universe\* by Rodman Philbrick](#) may be read as an alternate text **by request**.

- Units are **subject to change** based on time constraints and the needs of the students.
- Students will be expected to read more than one text at a time and to complete various, and often overlapping, assignments.

### Richland School District Two Honor Pledge

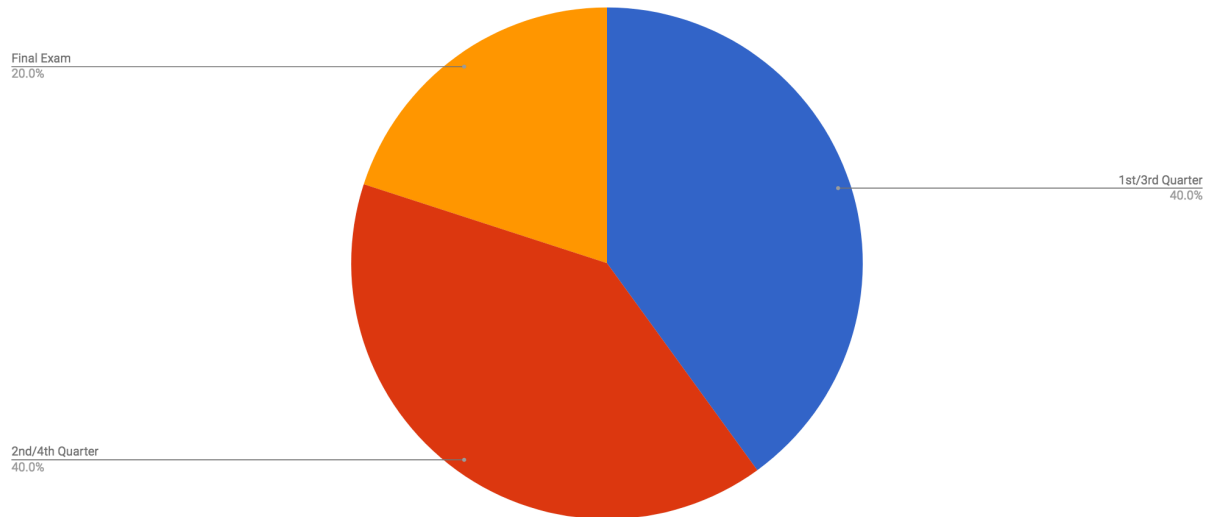
On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this assignment. I understand that any violation of the Richland School District Two honor code will result in academic and discipline action.



SPRING VALLEY  
HIGH SCHOOL  
*Palmetto Gold Award School*

120 Sparkleberry Lane  
Columbia, SC 29229  
www.richland2.org/svh  
Palmetto's Finest School

## Grading Procedures:



**Quick--but important--note: It is crucial that students approach all assignments, whether they be minor daily or homework assignments OR major projects, papers, and tests--whether they receive a large amount of points or merely provide practice--with their “best foot forward.” All assignments are designed to facilitate student understanding of course content!**

- A **point system** will be used for grading assessments and assignments. This means that quarterly grades will be determined by dividing the total **possible** number of points earned by the total number of points **earned** by an individual student (for example, if all assignments given during 1st quarter yield 750 **possible** points, and Sarah **earned** a total of 623 points, she would have an 83%--623/750--on her 1st quarter report card).
- **Quarterly grades** will consist of **4-6 major summative assessments** (quarterly INB assessment, tests, compositions, projects, performances, etc.) to account for 50% of the final score and **9-18 minor formative assessments** (quizzes, class assignments and activities, reflections, one-pagers, reading reviews, close reading selections, etc.) to account for the remaining 50% per the [District Grading Expectations](#).
- Student grades will be available to parents on [Richland School District 2's portal](#). Grades will be updated on a weekly basis until the end of the quarter when they are made final. It is the student's responsibility to [make an appointment](#) to discuss grade concerns with me **outside** regular class time if the need should arise.

### Richland School District Two Honor Pledge

On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this assignment. I understand that any violation of the Richland School District Two honor code will result in academic and discipline action.



SPRING VALLEY  
HIGH SCHOOL  
*A Palmetto Gold Award School*

120 Sparkleberry Lane  
Columbia, SC 29229  
[www.richland2.org/svh](http://www.richland2.org/svh)  
Palmetto's Finest School

## Homework Policy:

The purpose of routine homework is to provide students with independent practice and engage formatively in their own learning. Occasionally, students will be asked to take notes on a short reading before the next class. However, most days, there will only be a general homework expectation as outlined below.

- Review notes/class activities/INB as needed
- Finish anything not completed in class
- Annotate INB and notes to review
  - Highlight ideas, add annotations, journaling, and anything else on INB checklist
- Work towards current major assessments
- Choice reading: 20-30 minutes a day (this is highly recommended for students who plan to pursue a 4 year college degree after high school).

If homework is assigned, it should be ready to submit and/or discuss at the beginning of the class period in which it is due. ***Homework not produced upon request on the date due, for whatever reason, is late work.*** Please see [Late Work](#) policy linked below. Homework ***may or may not*** be assessed and graded for completion and/or for mastery.

If a specific homework assignment is given, it will be announced in class and written on the whiteboard. I also will try to post a reminder in [Google Classroom](#).

## [SVHS MakeUp Work, Late Work, and Content Recovery Policy](#)

**Plagiarism (page 32 of [Student Handbook](#)) and Honor Code Policies (page 25 of [Student Handbook](#)) - use Ctrl+F to search**

## AI Addendum<sup>1</sup>

AI tools may be used for brainstorming or to assist in preliminary research, but **using AI to generate answers or complete assignments without proper citation or submitting AI-generated content as one's own is considered plagiarism**. If you choose to use AI tools, please keep in mind that

- If you provide minimum effort prompts, you will get low-quality results. You will need to refine your prompts in order to get good outcomes. This will take work and considered thought.
- Don't trust anything AI says. If it gives you a number or fact, assume it is wrong unless you either know the answer or can check in with another source.
- You will be responsible for any errors or omissions provided by any tools you use. AI is most useful when you already understand your topic(s).
- AI is a tool, but one that you must acknowledge using—even for brainstorming or preliminary research purposes. Please include a private comment and/or paragraph explaining what you

---

<sup>1</sup> Wording from <https://www.teachai.org/toolkit-student> and <https://www.oneusefulthing.org/p/all-my-classes-suddenly-became-ai>

### Richland School District Two Honor Pledge

**On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this assignment. I understand that any violation of the Richland School District Two honor code will result in academic and discipline action.**



SPRING VALLEY  
HIGH SCHOOL  
*Palmetto Gold Award School*

120 Sparkleberry Lane  
Columbia, SC 29229  
[www.richland2.org/svh](http://www.richland2.org/svh)  
Palmetto's Finest School

used the AI for and what prompts you used to get the results you did at the end of any assignment it contributed to. **Failure to do so is in violation of academic integrity and honor code policies.**

- As with all tools, be thoughtful about when AI is legitimately useful. Don't use it if it isn't appropriate for the case or circumstance.

## Classroom Expectations and Procedures:

\*All school rules will be enforced. Please see [student handbook](#) book for full details.\*

In order to be successful in this course, you are expected to abide by the 7 P's: be **punctual, prepared, polite, participatory, precise, positive, and proud**. This will help ensure the maximum use of instructional time and an atmosphere conducive to quality learning.

**Punctual:** Please refer to the SVHS tardy policy in the handbook located at <https://www.richland2.org/svh> (click on "Our School") and directly linked above. Furthermore, students are expected to be **ready to begin class--physically (having all materials out and ready) and mentally--at the sound of the bell**, as well as attending promptly to **all** directions **throughout** class (the lesser recognized aspects of punctuality).

**Prepared:** It is the student's responsibility to bring all necessary materials to class daily, including a **fully-charged** (mark my words: we'll return to this phrase again) device, pen/cil, notebook, textbook and/or class novel, and independent reading selection(s). Literature books (or any other materials, for that matter) may not be left in the classroom. The teacher is not responsible for any books/materials that should go missing if left behind. Furthermore, and perhaps most importantly, each student should have completed any assignments to the best of his or her ability prior to the beginning of each class.

**Polite:** Aretha sang it best: it's all about respect. Respect yourself. Respect others. Respect D219. I do everything in my power to protect every student's right to learn in a safe and comfortable environment. This means that classroom disruptions and demeaning attitudes cannot not be tolerated. We all make mistakes, so a minor classroom disruption or perceived disrespect will result in a verbal warning; however, if the disruption or disrespectful behavior persists, I will ask the student to report to the reflection room in C-148 for the remainder of the class meeting and refer the student to her/his administrator. Any disciplinary referral will be **followed by** parent contact. **Major** classroom disruptions which impede the ability of other students to learn--or me to teach--in a safe and comfortable environment will proceed immediately--without warning--to ISS and a disciplinary referral.

**Participatory:** Learning is an active sport; passive "seat-warming" is an insufficient contribution to the class environment. To that end, **each student is expected to speak up: question, challenge (respectfully, of course), and engage with the texts, your teacher, and your classmates**--both in the classroom and through online forums. All students should be **attentive, participate fully in all activities, and ask and answer questions as needed**. Trust me: although I find myself to be quite entertaining, you likely will not want this course to be a one-woman show.

### Richland School District Two Honor Pledge

On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this assignment. I understand that any violation of the Richland School District Two honor code will result in academic and discipline action.



SPRING VALLEY  
HIGH SCHOOL  
*of Palmetto Gold Award School*

120 Sparkleberry Lane  
Columbia, SC 29229  
[www.richland2.org/svh](http://www.richland2.org/svh)  
Palmetto's Finest School

**Precise:** Choose your words to express what you mean to express: say what you mean and mean what you say. Avoid unnecessary repetition. Enough said.

**Positive:** Recent research is shedding light on the influence of an individual's attitude on his or her ability to comprehend, retain, and utilize new skills and information. Positivity is key. When confronted with difficulty, challenge, and even outright failure, embrace the power of **YET**. (Don't believe me? Google "grit.")

**Proud:** Take pride in your learning. Take pride in your growth. **Know that you deserve the best education possible!**

## Addendum - General Classroom Routines:

**Announcements, Drills, Evacuations and Emergency Procedures** – I take all announcements seriously; you never know when it may be important (even if it sometimes seems it rarely is). *Please* remain quiet if our class is interrupted by a call from the office or an intercom announcement. Simply "freeze" when this happens. We will "thaw" and resume class once the cause of interruption is attended to.

In the case of evacuate, shelter and lockdown drills (we will have them throughout the year), you are expected to quickly and quietly follow all teacher directions. All drills should be treated as if they were the real deal. Misbehavior or failure to comply with directions will result in an immediate discipline referral. In the case of a drill, as with any interruption, we will resume class activity as promptly as possible.

**D219 Cell Phone Policy** – (also posted in the classroom) *Once you are on the carpet, if I see it or hear it, it goes to jail!* "Jail" consists of a clear container in which students must stow their phones on their desks for the remainder of class. Doing so serves as a first warning from the teacher; if a second offense should occur, a notice will be sent home via ParentSquare; if a third offense should occur, I confiscate the device and turn it over to C-148 according to SVHS procedures (per the [Richland 2 Student Handbook](#)). Rarely, if phones are permitted for educational purposes, the general policy will be covered by an alternate sign indicating that phone usage is allowed. Please refer to the class [DEVICE POLICY](#) for additional information and rationale.

**End of Class** – I am certain you have heard the following before, but it bears repeating: *the bell does not end class, the teacher ends class*. Please be sure to pay attention to all final announcements—even if they occasionally occur after the bell.

**Enforcement of SVHS Rules** – As a reminder, I do enforce all SVHS rules. If you have any questions about school policy, please clarify your understanding immediately. ***Ignorance of policy is no excuse.***

**Restroom** – It is expected that you will remain in class during the entire class period. You will not be excused to use the restroom unless it is an emergency. If a restroom break ***absolutely*** must disrupt your class time, you are responsible for any work and/or announcements that may have occurred in your absence. In the case of excessive (generally defined as more than 2 per quarter) restroom passes, you may be asked to make up class time by reporting before or after school or during lunch. Failure to do so

### Richland School District Two Honor Pledge

On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this assignment. I understand that any violation of the Richland School District Two honor code will result in academic and discipline action.



120 Sparkleberry Lane  
Columbia, SC 29229  
[www.richland2.org/svh](http://www.richland2.org/svh)  
Palmetto's Finest School

will result in detention hours. Running of personal errands is NOT allowed – visit the water fountain, your locker, the front office, your guidance counselor, et. al., outside of class time.

**Guest Teachers** – If, for any reason, you have a guest teacher join the class for the day, you are to give them the UTMOST respect. I do not expect to ever return to find a letter from the guest teacher indicating infractions or disrespect. Any such reports will result in a discipline referral upon my return. A guest teacher should always want to come back! In an effort to make our classroom especially inviting for guest teachers, I will always leave a copy of the day's lesson with them and one for the class (via Google Classroom or a class representative). YOU are responsible for completing the work assigned just as if I were present. Therefore, I will not accept the excuse that the guest teacher was unclear or uninformed. YOU are responsible for your learning; the faculty at SVHS (including guest teachers) is responsible for providing you with the necessary aid and assistance to facilitate your progress.

### **Additional Notes (AKA the kitchen sink):**

#### **Richland School District Two Honor Pledge**

**On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this assignment. I understand that any violation of the Richland School District Two honor code will result in academic and discipline action.**





SPRING VALLEY  
HIGH SCHOOL  
*A Palmetto Gold Award School*

120 Sparkleberry Lane  
Columbia, SC 29229  
www.richland2.org/svh  
Palmetto's Finest School

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **English Class Period:** \_\_\_\_\_

Consent: I have read, understood, and am willing to comply with the principles and procedures established by Mrs. Pellerin and Spring Valley High School. I will accept the consequences stated if I should refuse to abide by them. I sign under no undue compulsion, but by my own free will. I acknowledge my personal responsibilities in obtaining a quality education.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Parents/Guardians,

Please sign that you have read the information from this class syllabus and the consent including the following topics: [Teacher Information](#), [Course Description](#), [State/National Standards](#), [Material Supply List](#), [Scope and Sequence](#), [Grading Procedures](#), [Homework Policy](#), [MakeUp Work](#), [Late Work](#), and [Content Recovery Policy](#), [Plagiarism Policy](#), and [Classroom Expectations and Procedures](#)

#### STUDENT AND PARENT COURSE CONSENT

We have read, discussed, and understand the expectations for **English 1 CP** and will support Mrs. Pellerin in her effort to provide an effective learning environment. We also understand that this course is a rigorous course that will require a significant amount of effort on the part of the student.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**You know your child better than anyone. In an effort to waste no time in providing them with a quality education, please write any other pertinent information about your student below:**



#### **Richland School District Two Honor Pledge**

**On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this assignment. I understand that any violation of the Richland School District Two honor code will result in academic and discipline action.**