



Sharyland Advanced Academic Academy

2024-2025 Syllabus

English III Honors

The Language Arts department of Sharyland Advanced Academic Academy challenges all student learners to excel in the areas of reading, writing, and advanced critical thinking. In addition, special emphasis is placed on enriched college preparation and readiness, while also creating a high standard for SAT, ACT, and TSI scores.

Course Description: The purpose of this course is to obtain a deeper understanding of the literary, oral, and written elements included in the TEKS, the state's curriculum standards. The elements are vast and can be viewed at www.tea.state.tx.us. Moreover, the focus of this class will be to prepare each and every student for success on the higher-level coursework they will encounter throughout future English Advanced Placement and/or Dual-Credit classes.

Materials: Our textbook is available in hardcover or online - Texas Edition of EMC's *Mirrors and Windows: American Literature* offers a comprehensive curriculum that spans classic and contemporary American literary works. It explores diverse genres, themes, and perspectives, fostering critical thinking and analysis. The textbook emphasizes historical, cultural, and social contexts, aligning with Texas standards to develop reading, writing, and communication skills.

All students are required to come prepared to class. The following list contains materials each student must bring to class daily.

On-Campus Learning - Required Materials Per Student:

1. Composition Book OR Spiral Notebook
2. Folder with Pockets
3. #2 Pencils or mechanical w/lead
4. Black, Blue, Red and Green pens (additional colorful pens are encouraged, but are optional)
5. Fully charged school laptop
6. Charging cable for laptop

***If any student does not have access to required technology, for distance learning purposes, the district may provide needed materials. In this case, please contact our administrators (principal/asst. principal).

Instructional Strategies: A wide variety of instructional strategies are used to provide learning opportunities that scaffold learning and accommodate a variety of learning styles, interests, and ability levels. These may include but are not limited to the following:

Small group/whole class discussion	Critical thinking journals/Interactive notebooks
Minor critical analysis writing assignments (i.e. story element analysis paragraphs)	Essays (i.e. persuasive, analytical)
Minor creative writing assignments (i.e. character letters, point-of-view rewrites)	Informal dramatic presentations (i.e. character role plays, tableaux, reader's theatre)
Direct instruction	Group/individual oral presentations
Graphic Organizers (i.e. theme tracking, Venn diagram, character webs)	Unit Tests/quizzes/chapter questions/projects

Grading Guidelines (Late Work Policy, Exemption Policy, etc.):

Due dates are important—complete assignments on time.

Parents and students may request access to the SKYWARD online grade book to monitor class progress; students are especially encouraged to request online access to their grades as monitoring their own progress is his/her responsibility. Any questions students may have regarding grades can be addressed before school, after school, or by Remind.

Plagiarism Policy: Plagiarism is stealing someone else's ideas or work and presenting them as your own. It is a serious offense that is unethical, violates the rules of student conduct, and may be a violation of copyright law. Whenever you borrow information for an assignment, you must give proper references and cite your sources. This gives proper credit to the creator of the work, it allows the reader to locate the original information and lends credibility to your work. **Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in severe consequences which will be determined by an administrator and the teacher. Any such offenses will be documented and kept on file.**

Policy on Use of AI in English Class:

****Purpose:****

To maintain academic integrity and ensure the development of critical thinking and writing skills, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools in the English class is regulated as follows.

****Policy Statement:****

1. **Prohibition of AI for Essays and Constructed Response Questions:**

Students are prohibited from using AI tools to generate, assist with, or complete essays, constructed response questions, or any form of written assignments in English class. This includes, but is not limited to, automated writing programs, content generation tools, and language models.

2. **Expectations for Original Work:**

All written assignments must reflect the student's own understanding, analysis, and expression. The purpose of these assignments is to assess individual abilities in writing, critical thinking, and comprehension. Using AI to produce or significantly influence these assignments undermines this educational goal.

3. **Consequences of Violation:**

Any use of AI in violation of this policy will be considered a breach of academic integrity. Consequences may include, but are not limited to, receiving a zero on the assignment, further disciplinary action, and mandatory meetings with academic advisors or instructors.

4. **Support and Resources:**

Students are encouraged to seek assistance from teachers, tutors, and writing resources provided by the school if they need help with their assignments. Support is available to help develop skills and overcome challenges in writing and analysis.

****Effective Date:****

This policy is effective immediately and applies to all current and future English classes.

Attendance Policy: Honor classes are not allowed to turn in late work for unexcused absences. In the case of an excused absence, the responsibility to collect make-up work and complete it in a timely fashion falls solely on the student. Students with an excused absence from school are expected to make up work missed at the rate of one day for one day missed, with a maximum of five days. Students who are absent but had prior notice of upcoming assignments or tests must complete the assignments or tests on the first day back to school. Students will be expected to make up assignments and tests after absences. **Students will receive a zero for any assignment or test not made up within the allotted time.**

Mrs. Franco's Classroom Expectations:

Arrive Promptly:

Do not come late to class; the school's tardy policy will be enforced. School begins at 7:50 and the tardy bell rings at 8:00am. Make sure you are in your seat, with all necessary materials, as soon as the tardy bell rings. If you are not in class by that time, you will be required to get a tardy pass as entrance to the classroom (3 tardies are an absence). Consistent tardiness or absences may cause you to result in loss of credit for the course.

Come To Class Prepared: All necessary materials must be brought to class each day. This includes your books, notebook, folder, paper, writing utensils, homework assignments, and any other major projects or assignments due. Materials will not be provided for you.

Mind Your Manners: Please be respectful at all times, to your classmates, your teacher, all SA3 staff and any visitors. This also includes school property, such as the classroom, desks, hallways and bathroom. Any rude or inappropriate behavior, in any form, will not be tolerated. Be respectful of everyone's abilities and feelings.

Consequences (depend on the severity of the infraction):

- 1.) Verbal warning, documented with principal
- 2.) Remind/phone call/email to parent about the issue, documented with principal
- 3.) Counselor referral (if necessary)
- 4.) Parent-teacher-administration conference
- 5.) Referral to office
- 6.) Notice:*** Any extreme offense (ie. vaping/drugs, assault, threats) will automatically result in an office referral.

Actively Participate: Come to class with an open mind and a positive attitude (along with the Growth Mindset!) Our classroom will be a fun, learning environment where ideas can be shared and we can grow together. Never be afraid to ask questions or make mistakes; it's all part of learning. Participation grades will be taken, so make sure to speak up and take an active interest in your learning!

Take Advantage Of Your Education: The more effort you put into class, the more benefits you will get out of it. Make sure to keep an eye on your grades; it is your responsibility to keep track of your progress in this class. Please ask questions and/or come to tutoring as often as possible. You may also email me at any time with any questions or concerns you have. Do not wait until the last minute!

Cell Phone Policy: Per the Sharyland ISD cell phone policy, all cell phones must be placed in their designated pockets upon entering the classroom. When given permission, students will be allowed to use electronic devices for educational purposes only. Any device used or visible during school hours (outside of a lesson that requires it) will be confiscated and turned into an administrator, no questions asked!

Dismissal: Make sure you leave the classroom clean and orderly by throwing away your trash and placing desks in their original positions. Be in your seats before the dismissal bell; you will not be allowed to leave early.

Tutoring: There is no tutoring offered for this class as it is not an EOC testing subject. However, if you need assistance with an assignment, feel free to reach out to me during class or during lunch B for assistance.

Contact Information:

Mrs. Rebecca Franco
ELAR Teacher, STC Professor

Remind:

Please subscribe to class Remind texts using code:

Padres, solo hablo inglés, pero si tienen alguna inquietud acerca de su hijo y necesitan hablar conmigo, comuníquese con la consejera escolar, ya que ella puede traducir.

Parents, please contact me if you have a concern about your child's academic progress. I encourage you to talk with your child and view their Skyward grades on a weekly basis. I prefer communication via Remind, or you can email me.

RETURN THIS PAGE

Please keep the syllabus for your records as it contains important classroom information and methods of contact; only return this page, signed. Thank you.

Parent/Guardian

I have read and discussed the syllabus with my son/daughter and I am aware of the class expectations and consequences for not respecting those stated expectations..

I understand that together, student/parent/teacher, we are a team that is united for the success of the student.

(Student Name, please print)

(Parent/Guardian Name, please print)

(Student Signature)

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

VOLVER A ESTA PAGINA

Conserve el programa de estudios para sus registros, ya que contiene información importante sobre la clase y métodos de contacto; devuelva esta página únicamente firmada. Gracias.

Padre/tutor

He leído y analizado el programa de estudios con mi hijo/hija y estoy al tanto de las expectativas de la clase y las consecuencias de no respetar dichas expectativas.

Entiendo que juntos, estudiante/padre/maestro, somos un equipo que está unido por el éxito del estudiante.

(Nombre del estudiante, en letra de imprenta)

(Nombre del padre/tutor, en letra de imprenta)

(Firma del estudiante)

(Firma del padre/tutor)

Sharyland ISD High School Honors Course Agreement

Student Name: _____ **ID#** _____ **Current Grade Level:** _____

The Honors program is a challenging course of study for students who desire an educational experience beyond the required curriculum. The focus of the program is to provide students increased opportunities to engage in active questioning, analysis, and communication. Honors classes offer students rigorous instruction while requiring students to meet a higher level of responsibility to prepare for future Advance Placement (AP) or Dual Credit courses.

The student is expected to:

- Complete all class assignments which are planned to increase student understanding.
- Budget time effectively and efficiently. As per Sharyland ISD Grading Guidelines, Honors students will not be allowed to submit late minor work. They will be allowed to submit late MAJOR assignments with a progressive grade penalty of 15 points per day, up to two days.
- Seek help when needed by meeting with teachers or attending tutorial sessions. Honors students will not be allowed to retest or redo major assignments unless 50% of the class fails.
- Have good attendance.

Honors Courses Selected	
1.	2.
3.	4.

For each Honors course selected: Parents and students are to be familiar with the course description and the exit criteria before signing this contract.

STUDENT PROGRESS and EXIT CRITERIA: If student is failing at any reporting period, the teacher is required to contact the parent/guardian. On or before the end of the first reporting period of each semester, the student may submit a request to drop/change the course selection provided there is room in another class and parent permission. After the first reporting period, no other student-initiated change in the course selection will be made until the end of the semester. Upon exiting an honors course, the cumulative average will transfer to the next lower level course.

I have read the above responsibilities and agree to abide by them.

Student Name (Printed) _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Teacher Signature _____ Date _____

August 12, 2021