

## English II Course Syllabus



<b>Instructor:</b> Erica Acker	<b><u>My Schedule (1st Semester / 2nd Semester)</u></b>
<b>Course Title:</b> English 2	<b>1st Block:</b> English 2/Planning
<b>Email:</b> ebacker@greenville.k12.sc.us	<b>2nd Block:</b> English 2/English 2
<b>Room:</b> B135	<b>3rd Block:</b> English 2H/English 2
<b>Phone:</b> 355-6577 (voice mail)	<b>4th Block:</b> Planning/English 2 Honors
	<b>Extra help:</b> Mornings and afternoons by appointment <i><b>*You must have a pass to come for extra help in the morning. Request a pass via email.</b></i>

### Course Description:

English II is a thematic study of literature that prepares students for the End of Course Examination (EOC) at the end of the year. This course includes poetry, drama, fiction, and nonfiction, as well as opportunities for a variety of compositions with an emphasis on argument and literary analysis. This course is skills-driven and focuses on writing, grammar, reading, and vocabulary.

### Instructional Philosophy:

The English Department of Mauldin High School believes that every student has a unique voice, and our goal is for that voice to be heard through both oral and written communication. In preparing our students to communicate effectively as citizens of a global community, we follow the SC Standards for Learning at every level to plan and implement lessons designed to improve reading, writing, speaking, research, listening, and viewing skills in a logical, systematic, and sequential manner. Each teacher uses a variety of teaching and assessment strategies to address multiple learning styles. We adhere to the district grading guidelines and to its scope and sequence recommendations in order to help each student realize his or her full potential as a life-long learner.

**Course Goals and Power Standards:**     [English II Standards](#) [GCS High School Landing Page](#)

### Textbook:

- *Into Literature*, Grade 10. Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.
  - Each student will receive a consumable copy of the textbook that can be used in class and at home.

### Required Materials:

- Charged Chromebook
- Paper, pens/pencils, and highlighters
- A folder or binder is recommended for organizational purposes
- Textbook/Grammar Workbook (will remain in classroom)

### Books Studied in this Course:

\*See [link](#) for an annotated list of all novels that could be read for class.

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### Assessment and Grading Policy:

60% Major Grades (3-5 per quarter), 40% Minor Grades (12-20 per quarter)

<b><u>SC Grading Scale:</u></b>	A	90-100
	B	80-89
	C	70-79
	D	60-69
	F	51-59

### Major Units of Study Outlined:

\*\*The schedule may be modified as progress is monitored and the major texts may be adjusted to accommodate varied learning rates and availability of supplemental materials.\*\*

Unit 1: Power of Perception  
Ted Talk and Short Stories

A memoir, *Night* by Eli Weisel

Unit 2: Conflict and Connection  
An Athenian play, *Oedipus Rex* by Sophocles

Unit 4: Reckless Ambition  
A play, *Julius Caesar/Macbeth* by William Shakespeare

Unit 3: Hard-Won Liberty

Unit 5: Magical Realism

Short Stories from Latin America

\*The Honors course will be exploring individual texts from around the world and blogging about various literary elements of the text that coincide with English 2 standards.

**Attendance Expectations:** Students are expected to be in class on time, every day. If a student is absent it is imperative they communicate with their teacher. Excused absences will qualify for make-up work within a 5 day window.

**MHS BATHROOM/HALL POLICY:** Students may use the restroom during appropriate times during class at the discretion of each teacher. Only one student is permitted to leave the room at a time, and students are not permitted to leave the room during the first 10 and last 10 minutes of class. The teacher reserves the right to disallow a student from using the restroom if they have been out of the room for an excessive amount of time.\*MHS will be using the SmartPass system this year. Students will use their Chromebooks to access 2 passes per day to use the restroom.

### Late Work:

A student's work will be considered late if:

- The student attended class and failed to submit a required assignment.
- The student has an unexcused absence as coded in PowerSchool
- Students involved in extracurricular activities are expected to submit assignments prior to their absence OR on the first day upon return for the school-approved activity or event. Otherwise, the work is considered "late."

Please see the MHS Late Work Policy [HERE](#).

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### Make-up Work:

Students are allowed to make up work if:

- The student has an excused absence coded in PowerSchool (ex. medically documented illness or appointment, bereavement, court date) **or** an unexcused parent note in PowerSchool..
- Students have 5 days from the date of their return to complete assignments.

All students are responsible for communicating any circumstances which prevent students from participating in class activities, which include, but are not limited to, any videos, surveys, and assignments.

### Extra Help:

I am available most mornings from 8:10am-8:40 am in my classroom.

You may also email me or call me using the information at the top of this page to set up a time that works for you.

### Behavior Expectations and Consequences:

1. Be here.
2. Be on time.
3. Be prepared.
4. Be respectful of your classmates and me.

**Use of cell phones and personal electronic devices are prohibited in the classroom as per state law:**

- All student cell phones and personal electronic devices must be silenced or turned off and stored in backpacks at the front of the classroom; this includes smartwatches, earbuds, and all other personal electronic devices and accessories.
- High school students may not use electronic devices outside of the classroom unless that use is for instructional/school-related activities as approved by the school, such as checking grades, emailing teachers, referencing their schedule, using the phone to pay for lunch, etc. This will only be permitted during your student's scheduled lunch time in the atrium.

Details about the updated policy can be reviewed on the [district's website](#).

5. **Ability to leave the room is limited.** For safety and accountability reasons, students are not allowed to leave the classroom during the first and last 10 minutes of class unless it is a documented medical reason. Only one student is permitted to be out of class at a time at the discretion of the teacher (water, restroom, ID replacement, etc.).

**Consequences:** First offense, teacher warning—second, parent contact—thereafter, office referral. See MHS Handbook for outlined policies in regards to tardies, electronic devices, etc.

\*\* Depending on the severity of an issue, certain consequences may be bypassed.