

English I

2025-2026 Syllabus

Part 1: Course Information

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Theresa M. Zurcher-Williams

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Remind:

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to provide an integrated language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language for college and career preparation and readiness. Vocabulary work is derived from reading the required novel and short story selections assigned and from grade level academic vocabulary necessary for state-mandated testing. Students will be studying long and short works of fiction and nonfiction, poetry, drama, and the epic.

Learning Objectives:

- students will be able to think and discuss critically and constructively while becoming familiar with literary elements and techniques.
- Students will be able to write across genres using the formal writing process.
- Students will be able to engage speaking and listening skills through active discussions, oral presentations and audio read along.
- Students will participate in End-of-Course testing (EOC) successfully.

General Education/High School Pathway Area:

- ELA 1 is the first of the four required English courses for graduation.

Textbook and Course Materials:

Required Text

- Access to McGraw Hill Online **StudySync** textbook (provided)
- (**Fully charged Chromebooks** are the required textbooks for this class...missing or uncharged chromebooks will result in a lower grade)

Course Requirements:

- Access to internet connection (DSL, Lan, or cable connection desirable)
- Time management skills and self-discipline
- Study skills and a quiet area to work

Course Structure:

This course will be a mixture of lecture, class discussion, activities, and group work. When students receive their Chromebooks, technology will be integrated into their coursework.

Part 2: Student Learning Outcomes

Student mastery of the grade 9-10 Tennessee State ELA Standards:

[Tennessee ELA Standards](#)

Student mastery of content will be met by:

- Attending all class meetings
- Participating in all activities and discussions
- Completing all assignments and submitting them on time

Part 3: Grading Policy

There is a point system system in place for this class. Each assignment, project, or group activity is worth a specific amount of points. Students will have seven days to complete each assignment. After seven days have passed, points will be deducted for paper assignments and assignments posted in google classroom. Studysync assignments will not be reopened after the assigned seven days have passed. Students who have not completed studysync assignments in the required time (7 days) will receive zeros for those assignments.

- **Assignments= 85% of final grade**
- **EOC= 15% of final grade**
- **Student mastery of English I content will result in promotion to the next level course.**

Late Work Policy:

Pay close attention to deadlines; they will be posted and I will issue reminders. Make-up assignments, tests, or late work will be marked down or not accepted without a serious and compelling reason or prior instructor approval.

Viewing Grades in ASPEN:

Grades will be posted to ASPEN Online Gradebook. Click on the “My Grades” on the left side navigation to view your points. Your instructor will update online grades each time a grading session is complete - typically within 5 days following the completion date of the assignment.

Letter Grade Assignment

Final grades assigned for this course will be based on the percentage of total points earned and are assigned as follows:

Letter Grades	Percentage	Performance
A	90-100%	Excellent
B	80-90%	Good
C	70-80%	Average
D	60-70%	Poor
F	0-59%	Failing

Part 4: Course Policies

Attend Class

Students are expected to attend all classes. If a student misses a class, the student is responsible for completing all missed assignments and reading in a timely manner.

Participation

Participation in class shows maturity and ownership of the educational experience. Participation makes the learning experience more interesting for both instructor and student. Participation will occasionally become a grade, but it will be random and unannounced. Lack of participation during these occasions will result in a zero for that task or assignment.

*Please be familiar with the school-wide cell phone policy. Phones are not to be out during class. If they are, parents will be required to come to the office to pick them up at the end of the day.

I have read and understand these rules and policies for English I.

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

Student Printed Name: _____

Date: _____