



ENGLISH II

Ms. Ward
Rm. C322

Course Welcome

Welcome to English II at Hazelwood East High School! My name is Ms. Ward. I am a graduate student in my last semester at the University of Missouri-Saint Louis. I have a Bachelor's degree in English and a Master of Fine Arts in Writing. I will graduate in December 2023, earning a Master of Education with Secondary Teaching Certification.

Teaching Philosophy: I value educating students as whole persons who may come to the classroom with negative past experiences, present hardships, and future expectations. My goals are to make lessons applicable to students' experiences, to teach students the value of self-critique and self-expression through writing, and to create a classroom unified under the banner of diversity, respect, and collective growth.

Please take your time to familiarize yourself with the course procedures and expectations.
I look forward to getting to know both students and their families this school year.

--Ms. Ward

Instructor Information:

Ms. Ward

tward@hazelwoodschools.org (preferred method of communication)

Classroom voicemail: ext 8335 (No calls will be taken during class time, please leave a message.)

Rm C322

	<i>A DAY</i>	<i>B DAY</i>
7:15-8:45	1 ST PLAN	5 TH ELA I
8:50-10:20	2 ND ELA I	6 TH PLC
10:25-10:55	LUNCH	LUNCH
11:00-12:40	3 RD ELA I	7 TH ELA II

12:45-2:15	4 TH ELA I	8 TH ELA I
------------	-----------------------	-----------------------

Course Description:

The English II course is designed to promote essential literacy, discourse and thinking skills required for students to acquire new information independently as lifelong learners. Throughout this course students will gain proficiency through multiple opportunities to expand their academic vocabulary and closely analyze literature texts, informational texts and multimedia texts presented in a variety of formats. Critical thinking and the ability to independently pursue and acquire information will be taught through text, speech, media and writing analysis. Students will work collaboratively with their teachers, peers and educational community to develop clear communication skills in both writing and verbal discourse. Students will produce multiple pieces of writing for a variety of purposes and will practice presenting and defending their ideas verbally. Students will maintain a print/ electronic portfolio which contains work samples and reflections of their growth as learners and will follow them to the next grade-level. English Language Arts II is a required course for tenth grade students.

Course Outline:

Each unit of study is 13-21 class sessions. Units center around an essential question that students will ask themselves as they read various fiction and nonfiction texts. Unit dates are subject to change.

Unit 1: The Persistence of Memories August 21, 2023-October 11, 2023

How does the past impact the future?

Unit 2: The Power of Communication October 12, 2023-January 12, 2024

Why do words matter?

Unit 3: The Ties that Bind January 16, 2024-February 29, 2024

What brings us back to one another?

Unit 4: Exploring Literary Worlds March 1, 2024-April 12, 2024

How does the chosen novel challenge societal norms and inspire personal transformation?

Unit 5: Chopped, Stirred, and Blended April 13, 2024-End of Year

What are the ingredients of culture?

Grading Structure:

70% Summative Assessments

- Student grades will be based primarily on the major projects, essays, and/or quizzes at the end of each unit.

30% Formative Classwork

- Daily assignments, discussion groups, group and independent practice in class, and homework

Rules/Policies/Expectations:

- Classroom expectations:
 1. Arrive on Time and Ready to Learn

2. Respect Others' Space and Time
 3. Keep Your Voice at a Learning Level
 4. Keep All Conversations School Appropriate
 5. No Passes During the First or Last 30 minutes
- Please refer to your [Student Handbook](#) regarding classroom expectations such as tardies, restroom use, and cell phones, as those policies will be followed.
 - Technology Use:
 - Please bring your fully charged Chromebook to class every day, so that you are prepared to use it for classwork. We will use Google Classroom regularly.
 - Assigned Seating Use:
 - Students must be seated at assigned desks for attendance, during instruction and whenever requested by the teacher.
 - Occasionally, students will be paired with peer partners at different table groups for Literature Circles or other assignments.
 - Daily practice of independent reading and writing is an essential part of this classroom. Students will be expected to participate fully and avoid creating distractions to the learning environment.

Homework:

- Will be assigned nightly
- All students are expected to complete assigned homework to the best of their ability and on time
- Every homework assignment will be evaluated and returned to students in a timely manner

Behavior: Your classroom conduct should adhere to the policies outlined in the [Student Handbook](#) and attached Student Behavior Guide, as well as relevant 21st Century Skills for each unit. I contact home with news of student progress multiple times throughout each quarter.

Attendance: If an absence is excused by me, it is then the student's responsibility to obtain classwork they missed by checking Google Classroom and seeking additional help for assignment comprehension and completion (if needed).