

Mrs. Wright
2013-2014
Class Syllabus
English I

A. Course Description and Overview

I strive for my students to succeed in both academics and in life. Even though this is a resource room, I want to keep the curriculum as close as the general education classroom as possible. All students will succeed if they attend class on a regular basis, bring all materials to class, and complete and turn in all assignments on due date. Students may come by after school every day until 3:30 for extra help. I will stay after school for extra help until 5:00 when a student lets me know a day in advance. I will be available every day after school until 3:30 without letting me know. I am rotating classrooms until the new facilities are completed so the easiest way to contact me is through e-mail or calling the office at (405)387-4304.

B. Course Content

1st nine weeks ó Identify and use different parts of speech.

2nd nine weeks ó Read and understand a diary entry.

Read and understand a poem.

Read and understand a sketch.

Read and understand a myth.

3rd nine weeks ó Read and understand requiem.

Identify examples of refrain and dialect in spirituals.

Discuss the meaning and symbolism of spirituals.

4th nine weeks ó Identify cause and effect relationships.

Describe the settings in an autobiography.

Identify the point of view in a story.

C. Course Materials

Textbooks used are as follows: Basic English Grammar, American Literature
Students are expected to furnish own paper and writing utensils (pen and pencil).

D. Course policies and Procedures

1. Enter the classroom quietly, with all supplies needed for class.
2. Respect others around you.
3. When someone is talking, do not interrupt.
4. Respect others opinion.
5. Stay in your seat and do not furniture not meant for sitting.
6. No cell phones allowed on in the classroom
7. No food or drink in class without teacher's permission.
8. No disruptive behavior in the classroom.

Students who do not follow rules will face the following consequences:

1. Conference with teacher and lunch detention.
2. Referral to office.
3. Conference with parent.

E. Bell Work

Bell work will be done daily at the beginning of class for 5-10 minutes. Each day is work 5 points and at the end of the week all work should be turned in for a total of 25 pts.

F. Grading Policies

90 ó 100	A
80 ó 89	B
70 ó 79	C
60 ó 69	D
59 & under	F

- a.) There will be 10 points deducted from grade for all work turned in late unless arrangements are made with teacher prior to due date.
- b.) There will be opportunities for extra credit, test retakes and classroom work corrections all at teacher discretion.
- c.) Progress reports will be issued every three weeks or upon parental request.
- d.) ðAll students will be required to complete one assignment each week that involves writing. Often times, this assignment will be also tied to a reading assignment, and this assignment will be graded and recorded. All students will be expected to write in complete sentences. Beginning September 10th, written responses not written in complete sentence form will receive a point deduction equivalent to 50% of the point value for that particular question. For example, if a question is worth 10 points and the student writes the correct answer, but it is not in complete sentence form, the student will lose 5 points on that particular question.

Beginning on the first day of school, and continuing through September 7th, students who receive a 50% reduction on any particular question for not answering in complete sentence form will have their graded paper returned to them and be given two days to change the answers into complete sentence form. If a student follows this procedure, any point reductions that were a result of incomplete sentences will be removed. It is important to note this opportunity is being offered as a transition time for students to meet our expectation of communicating and writing in complete sentences. Beginning September 10th, students will receive a 50% point reduction for each item not answered in complete sentence form, without the opportunity to redo the assignment.”

SEMESTER TEST POLICY (INCLUDING EXEMPTIONS)

In recognition of the importance of preparing our students for the next level of their education, semester testing provides a tool to assist teachers in working with students to prepare for and be successful on cumulative exams and proficiency tests. Developing semester tests also challenges our teachers to begin with the end in mind when planning for the semester and to also provide multiple and ongoing exposure to the most critical concepts throughout the semester. Our semester test guidelines are listed below:

- All core areas (math, science, English, and social studies) will administer a comprehensive, cumulative, and rigorous assessment at the end of each semester that will assess the majority of major objectives covered during the semester.
- Teachers who do not teach in a core area, as listed above, may give a comprehensive, cumulative, and rigorous assessment at the end of each semester at his or her discretion. If a teacher in a non-core area will be giving a semester exam, it will be communicated to students and parents at the beginning of the year in the course syllabus.
- The assessment will count for a minimum of 10% and a maximum of 20% of the student's final semester grade. This percentage must be common if there is more than one teacher teaching the same course.
- There are 3 opportunities for students to be exempt from a semester assessment, in addition to exemptions that may be earned on the EOI exam.
 - These opportunities are all-inclusive. Teachers may not grant other opportunities for exemption within their individual course without prior approval.
 - Exemption Opportunities:
 - 3 absences or less during the semester (an absence during even one hour, such as first hour, will count as one of the 3 absences). All excused (including medical, court, etc.) and unexcused absences count toward the 3 absences. Absences due to school activities are covered under OSSAA guidelines and therefore are not included in this category. Other exceptions to the 3 absences include: absences related to a student's coursework and sponsored by a teacher, such as a class field trip; the two days allowed for college visits for both juniors and seniors; and up to one day per year, provided documentation is provided to the attendance office, for the purpose of obtaining a driver's license.
 - Students may not use this exemption in a class in which he or she is making an F. Also, a student may not use this exemption in a class in which he or she is making a D, UNLESS the student has NO zeros in the class.
 - Exemplary behavior, as defined by no detention, no ISS, and no OSS

- Students may not use this exemption in a class in which he or she is making an F. Also, a student may not use this exemption in a class in which he or she is making a D, UNLESS the student has NO zeros in the class.
 - OSS will automatically result in the loss of all exemptions, regardless of meeting any other criteria.
 - Satisfactory academic progress, as defined by no D's and no F's in any class
 - Scoring 75% or higher on an End of Instruction exam (This exemption may only be used in the class in which the EOI exam was taken).
- **In order to be exempt from the semester test, in addition to meeting the criteria above, a student MUST BE PRESENT in class when the test is administered.** Students are also responsible for completing any assignments and/or reviews given by the teacher, even if the student is exempt from the actual semester test.
- **Second Semester Senior Exemptions – The criteria for second semester seniors to be exempt is unique.** Second semester seniors MUST HAVE 7 absences or less IN ALL CLASSES at the time of the formal graduation ceremony (subject to change each year depending on the number of days after the formal graduation ceremony) to be exempt. If a second semester senior has 7 absences or less IN ALL CLASSES and successfully completes the graduation ceremony, he or she will be considered exempt for the remaining days of school. Otherwise, a second semester senior student will be held accountable for all attendance and testing requirements AFTER the date of the formal graduation ceremony.
 - Note that for the purpose of this "Senior Exemption" only, days of ISS and OSS will count toward the 7 absences considered for the purpose of exemption, even though they do not count toward overall attendance requirements.

