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## ENGLISH I COURSE SPORTS LIT. OVERVIEW

### 2016-2017

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

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This course involves the study of certain literary works, vocabulary, critical analysis skills, and writing mechanics. Emphasis is placed on the organization and development of the multi-paragraph essay.

#### COURSE GOALS

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Upon the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- ♦ Identify elements and characteristics of the short story, drama, essay, and poem.
- ♦ Analyze plot structure, characters, conflict, and point of view in literary selections.
- ♦ Recognize and use appropriately vocabulary words occurring in the literary selections.
- ♦ Create paragraphs as well as multi-paragraph essays.
- ♦ Write using appropriate capitalization, punctuation, and usage.
- ♦ Develop and use close reading skills.

#### CLASSROOM RULES

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- ♦ Students should be in the classroom and seated when the tardy bell BEGINS to ring and be ready to work.
- ♦ Students should bring appropriate materials and books to class daily.
- ♦ Students have full responsibility for obtaining and returning make-up work.
- ♦ Students should turn in class work and homework on time.
- ♦ Students should remain in class during the entire period; and therefore, students should take care of any personal business before class begins.
- ♦ Students should use electronic devices at the instruction/discretion of the teacher. Any devices used otherwise will be confiscated.
- ♦ Students should treat their classmates and teacher with respect and courtesy.
- ♦ Students should help create and maintain a positive and safe learning environment.
- ♦ Students should treat personal and school property with respect.
- ♦ Students should not plagiarize or cheat or share their work with other students.

#### TARDY POLICY AND CONSEQUENCES

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- ♦ If a student is tardy, s/he will be asked to post his/her tardy.
- ♦ By posting a tardy, students are aware that they are subject to the following consequences:
  - 1st Offense → Verbal warning and/or teacher conference
  - 2nd Offense → Verbal warning or detention (must be served within the week)
  - 3rd Offense → Detention & parent phone call
  - 4th Offense → Discipline referral
  - Any offense after → Automatic discipline referral



### PASSES/LEAVING CLASS

- ♦ Students should remain in class during the entire period; and therefore, students should take care of any personal business **before** class begins.
- ♦ You will receive **three** passes each semester. Once you have used your passes, **you will not receive more**, and you may not use another student's passes.
- ♦ You may use your pass for emergencies (restroom, nurse, locker, etc.).
- ♦ If you do not use your passes, they may be used to gain an extra late pass at the end of the semester.

### NOTEBOOK

### SUPPLY LIST

- ♦ 2 college rule notebooks
- ♦ Highlighters
- ♦ Blue/Black Pens & Pencils
- ♦ \$5.00 for the following class items:
  - Research envelop
  - Miscellaneous class supplies
- ♦ *Recommended:* USB Flash Drive for saving written compositions and electronic files
- Class Supply Item: **DUE Tuesday 9/2**

- ♦ Label your divider tabs into the following sections:
  1. Information
  2. Reading
  3. Writing
  4. Quizzes/Tests
  5. Handouts
- ♦ Use the correct heading format for all assignments. See English Department Style handout.
- ♦ Keep papers behind the correct divider and in date order with most recent last.
- ♦ Update class calendar with homework assignments and 3-day deadline windows.

### TOPICS/UNITS OF STUDY

#### LITERATURE

- ♦ Various selections of poetry, short stories, and non-fiction from *Mirrors and Windows Level IV* - ISBN # 978-0-82193-148-6
- ♦ *Danger Zone* by David Klass
- ♦ *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
- ♦ *The Most Dangerous Game* by Richard Connell

#### GRAMMAR

Sentence structure and proofreading/editing skills

#### COMPOSITION

Expository, literary, persuasive, analytical, and research

#### LISTENING AND SPEAKING

Interpreting spoken messages and delivering presentations

#### OTHER

Poetry analysis, library skills, research skills, literary elements, vocabulary and spelling, EOC/STAAR preparation, and AP preparation

## **GRADING**

Grades are divided into two areas: *formative* and *summative*.

<u>Formative Items: 30%</u>	<u>Weight</u>		<u>Summative Items: 70%</u>	<u>Weight</u>
1. Homework/Daily Grades	1		1. Projects/Presentations	1-3
2. Quizzes	1-2		2. Essays	1-4
3. Smaller projects	2-3		3. Tests	1-3

Please utilize Skyward's Family Access to keep up with your averages.

Any questions or concerns about grades should be addressed during tutorial times or by appointment only.

## **MAKE-UP WORK**

1. Students must make-up work when absent.
2. Any assistance or further explanation from the teacher can be obtained during tutorials or with an appointment. Tutorials are offered Monday – Thursday from 8:20 to 8:50 a.m. Friday tutorials are dependent on meetings. After school tutorials are available by appointment.
3. Students who are absent have a maximum time to complete make-up work and/or assessments equal to the number of consecutive days missed by the student. Previously announced projects must be turned in upon the student's return to school.
4. Students should make arrangements with the teacher to make-up quizzes and/or tests in a timely manner. Failure to do so will result in a zero.
5. Students who will be absent from school for school-sponsored extracurricular activities shall request assignments and assessment information from their teachers in advance of the absence. Assigned work and/or assessments missed due to a school-sponsored extracurricular absence shall be due upon the student's return to class unless arrangements are made with the teacher in advance of the absence. Additional days are at the discretion of the teacher if arrangements are made in advance.
6. Make-up work is the STUDENT'S responsibility.

## **DSHS ENGLISH DEPARTMENT GRADING POLICIES**



1. Daily work is due on the assigned due date.
2. Long Term Due Dates: projects and assignments with long term due dates will receive a 3-day window of opportunity for submission. There will be a due date and then a deadline. Anything turned in after the due date will receive a penalty.
  - Day 1 of the window or on the due date, the assignment is worth 100 points.
  - Day 2 the assignment is worth 80 points before grading.
  - Day 3 the assignment is worth 70 points before grading.
  - Any assignments received after the deadline is a zero.
3. For presentations, a 25 point grade deduction will be assessed each day it is late.
4. Mechanical failures such as printers breaking, ink depletion, computers crashing are not an acceptable excuse to miss a deadline since deadlines are given in advance and with a three day window. As a rule of thumb, do not wait to print something the night before it is due.
5. Use the library to print out documents. Teachers cannot print documents for students. So plan to print the item well before it is due. It is better to turn in a hand-written copy than nothing at all.
6. All assignments are due at the beginning of the period.

Note: In case of emergencies, mishaps, errors of judgment, writer's block, busy schedules, etc., each student will be given three coupons per semester which he/she may use to turn in a homework assignment one day late. Once these have been used or lost, there is no alternative to the zero.

**According to the DSHS Student Handbook:**

“Academic misconduct includes academic dishonesty, cheating, and plagiarism. Academic misconduct is considered both an academic and a non-academic behavior issue. Grades on assignments that are plagiarized or that were earned through academic misconduct do not accurately reflect the level of the student’s academic achievement. The determination that a student has engaged in academic misconduct will be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee, taking into consideration written materials, observation, or information from students. A grade of zero will be recorded for these assignments.” An extended day is also part of the discipline action for academic misconduct.

**Our Department Clarification:**

Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty in which you use other people’s words or ideas (pictures, art, charts, graphs, computations, scientific data, music, etc.) as your own by failing to credit the others at all or by improperly crediting them. If you use someone else’s exact words, you must put quotation marks around them and give the person credit by revealing the source in a citation. Even if you revise, rearrange, or paraphrase the words, you still must give them credit instead of pretending the words or ideas are your own. Your teachers will instruct you how to properly credit your sources.

While some plagiarism is obviously intentional and some might be considered unintentional (missing or improper citation due to carelessness, often because of hurrying to do an assignment at the last minute), both types are still subject to the same penalties. If in doubt, ask your teacher before you turn in your assignment!

Unless your teacher specifically tells you that you may work with other students on an assignment, you are expected to work on all assignments by yourself, using only your own thoughts, ideas and reasoning.

**NOTE FOR THE ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR:** Study guides such as SparkNotes are probably available for most major works read. Study guides, however, are not always reliable sources for information about or interpretation of works. The writers of these guides are often college students doing a part-time job, and they make significant mistakes. The intelligent approach, obviously, is to read the primary source (the work itself) and to attempt analysis and interpretation for yourself. Study guides are appropriate only for review or, occasional, clarification. Assignments, tests and essays are based on primary texts. Also, be careful to avoid plagiarizing these sources.

**PENALTIES**

The above rules are essential for good classroom management. When a rule is broken, whether in or out of school, we expect to pay a penalty. A conference with the student will result in a warning and discussion of the proper penalty such as detention. If the problem persists, then a call or conference with a parent or parents may be necessary. I prefer to use the assistant principal only for serious or repeated offenses.

**MERITS**

If the student follows the rules, I pledge him or her an excellent education, improved self-discipline and confidence, and the mutual respect of his or her teacher and peers.

Dear Parents,

I look forward to working with your son or daughter. My conference periods this year will be 12:21-2:38 PM on Maroon Days and 9:00-10:30 AM on Gold Days. Please feel free to e-mail me at [travis.crain@dsisdtx.us](mailto:travis.crain@dsisdtx.us) if you would like to set up a meeting. **E-mail is the quickest way to contact me.** If you do not have e-mail, you can call me at 512-858-3157. You may leave a message, and I will return your call as soon as possible. Remember that I teach during the day, so I may not respond to your voice mail or e-mail immediately. Please do me the favor of completing the information on the following sheet and signing your name so that I know you received my course syllabus. Please also provide an e-mail address if possible so I may communicate class activities, assignments, and due dates. By working together, I know we can bring out the very best in your child. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Travis Crain

English I

Dripping Springs High School

[travis.crain@dsisdtx.us](mailto:travis.crain@dsisdtx.us)

*Dripping Springs Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability in its employment, practices, activities, and programs.*

**Travis Crain**

*English I*



**Conference:** 12:21-2:38 PM—M  
9:00-10:30 AM—G

**Email:** [travis.crain@dsisdtx.us](mailto:travis.crain@dsisdtx.us)

**Phone:** 512-858-3157

**Room:** B208

I have received and read your course overview for English. I have also completed the information you requested for your records.

PLEASE PRINT

Student's name

age

birthday

Parent Signature

Student Information: Take some time and write me a quick note telling me about yourself. Ideas to cover: What do you like to do? What are your future goals? In what activities do you participate? What do you hope to get out of this class? Etc.

[illegible]