

## High School ENGLISH I 2007-2008

Open to ninth and tenth grade students, this class reviews all the basic language skills required for successful high school work. Emphasis is placed on copious reading of individually chosen reading books as well as shared readings of inspiring shorter pieces and of current events. Extensive work shall be undertaken on mastering the art of the essay. Oral language will be developed through thoughtful response to group readings. In late spring, the class will practice the art of oral language through presentations. Ninth grade students who receive a semester grade of an "A" will receive College Prep credit for that semester.

### **Core Texts:**

English Essentials

Nist/Mohr (Townsend Press, publisher)

Voices and Values

Goldstein/Johnston (Townsend Press, publisher)

UP FRONT magazine

New York Times

### **Supplementary Texts:**

Individual choice books

### **Grading:**

Individual Reading - 25%  
personal choice reading rubric

Journal writing – 10%  
personal reflections – three pages weekly

Daily work/participation – 35%  
(skills assignments – 30%)  
(being prepared, attentive, and willing – 5%)

Quizzes – 30%  
weekly/unit vocabulary  
weekly language skills

### **Schedule:**

Monday	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
English Essentials	<b>DUE:</b> work assigned THU – MON sentences/paragraphs/essays	work-shop	<b>DUE:</b> work assigned TUE – WED VOC/SKILLS <b>quiz</b> SSR	read-ings

No late assignments will be accepted. Students will get one "pass" per quarter for assignments turned in within one week of due date. (located on back of *WCS Student Reference Guide*).

## Expectations and Policies:

### be Polite:

- ✓ be respectful of the needs of others
- ✓ keep cell phones off
- ✓ save personal issues for non-class time
- ✓ abide by school rules

### be Prepared:

- ✓ be in class before the bell
- ✓ have with you at all times:
  - personal reading book
  - personal writing journal
  - class textbooks as needed
  - paper and sharpened pencils
  - copy of this syllabus
- ✓ turn in all work by due date
- ✓

### Participate:

- ✓ be an active participant in class discussions
- ✓ when you are absent, obtain the information/work you missed
- ✓ utilize workshop time efficiently
- ✓ save bathroom visits for after the first bell
- ✓ do not wear ear phones in class

Please take note: I have taken great care to design a course of study that will give students the English language skills they need to succeed in high school. All the work that I assign is required and *none of it is optional*. Not only will failure to do any of the assignments lower a student's grade, but it will also mean that student is not getting the most out of this course. If a student misses too many assignments, I may require that student's presence in my afternoon tutorial. Failure to attend a required tutorial will result in a blue slip and a mandatory lunch detention. All classes are important – if one is missed, it is up to the student to learn what was missed from other students, to check the assignment board, and to pick up any materials they need from me.

