

**Welcome to English 2021-2022**

**Austin High School**

Welcome to English Class at Austin High School.

**English IV**

**Phone: 281-634-2000**

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Welcome to English IV! I am excited to have you in my class this year. The year will be packed with great literature, writing and other wonderful experiences. We will focus on polishing your writing voice and tools to prepare you for your future endeavors. Standards are high, and expectations are clearly communicated, but it is your responsibility to know and understand those expectations. As you read, keep in mind our shared goals for this year: to become better readers, writers, critical thinkers, and problem solvers in preparation for success in your future endeavors.

**\_\_\_\_\_THINGS TO REMEMBER DAILY:**

* Respect yourself, your fellow classmates, school property and your teacher.
* Practice tolerance, patience, and keep an open mind.
* I will dismiss you, so don’t get up and run out of my class.
* Be prompt to class each day**.**
* Come to class in proper attire.
* Refrain from interrupting your classmates and your teacher.
* You are responsible for class rules and all rules covered in your Student Handbook—be sure to read it!
* Don’t be afraid to ask for help.
* **BULLYING**--- will not be tolerated under any circumstance will result in a discipline referral.
* **Foul Language--**will not be tolerated and will result in a discipline referral and parent contact.

**ELA Guidelines & Expectations**

**Expectations as Part of the Profile of a Graduate:**

In order to equip you with skills for life, our goal is to create effective communicators who can adapt their communication style to the audience, who can prioritize the needs of others while accepting responsibility for themselves and become accountable for their own actions.

1. We will read, watch and discuss a variety of topics in our class this year because we are evaluating how a variety of people from different cultures, creeds, time-periods, backgrounds, and work-fields argue about the world around them through their own expressions. These skills are mandatory skills assigned by the State of Texas through its Texas Essential Knowledge & Skills (TEKS) that we are required to help high school students learn. As a class, we want you to make your own inferences and opinions and share them. We will discuss, read & write about a variety of topics that may be controversial to you. In some cases, you may be exposed to ideas that are contrary to your own beliefs. The goal is to teach you how to communicate in a constructive dialogue using concrete details, various argumentative strategies, and facts, not to change your personal beliefs. In our efforts to help create constructive discourse, we may watch or read a piece of text that could contain potential questionable language, ideas, or material to you. However, we will teach you how to analyze rhetoric and create your own arguments while exposing you to a variety of ideas from different cultures, creeds, backgrounds, and time periods that will help you learn and understand a variety of perspectives. We are teaching rhetoric. There will be more than one side of every issue/argument. You need to understand each side as well as the issue’s historical evolution to be able to evaluate how and why.

**It is your job** to inform you teacher of any issues, ideas or language that make you uncomfortable to help us create a safe and trusting classroom environment.

* Be open to the ideas of others even if you do not agree with them.
* You can look for faults in the way arguments are constructed.
* You can argue the topic, but do not to put down the others. Putting down others repeatedly will result in disciplinary action.
* Instead, take these new ideas and form your own argument from what you know.
* If you feel strongly against participating in an activity with the topic we are addressing, please tell me ahead of time so we can discuss any concerns. If necessary, we can provide an alternative assignment.

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| **Expectation** | **Virtual Classroom** |
| **Respectful** | * **Keep your mic muted unless directed to unmute by teacher.** * **Use the chat feature only to share thoughts related topic.** * **Keep interactions in chat and on assignments/discussion boards positive and constructive.** * **Respect the classroom environment, your peers, and yourselves and be mindful of different views, cultures, religions, etc… when engaging in discussions.** |
| **Responsible** | * **Submit online assignments through the proper online tools (ie: Submit via Schoology or Turnitin.com and not by emailing the assignment).** * **Log into synchronous learning sessions on time.** * **Follow district guidelines for dress code.** * **Look in Schoology for missed information due to absence or technical issues and follow up with the teacher via email.** |
| **Safe** | * **Practice appropriate netiquette (ie: district dress code, no profanity, mute yourself when asked or when instruction is taking place, etc…)** * **Only public chats are allowed – no side conversations in the chat with another peer.** * **Turn off or cover camera when away from your screen.** * **Use the “blur background screen” when camera is activated.** * **Keep passwords private.** |

1. **Technology & Cell Phone Policy:**  As we are a phase 1 technology campus, and will use the provided laptops for most of our activities. Technology use will help develop your 21st Century skills and allow you to take more ownership of your learning. We will use laptops for Schoology, revising & editing activities, research, projects, and some daily assignments. You may use a tablet to read or an e-reader or a hard copy of a book or novel. Reading on your phone is not permitted in class. Please let me know if you do not have access to technology.
2. **Cell phone use in the classroom is restricted to class activities** as it can become a distraction to your learning as well as the learning of others.

In order to follow the expectations of the Profile of a Graduate, **you need to learn how to separate using technology for learning versus for personal reasons.** Listening to music during brainstorm or writing activities is permitted on most days.

1. **Group Projects:** for all group work, you will sign an agreement to work with your group as well as perform a group work survey/review about the performance for each group member.

**Concerns need to be expressed to the teacher** before final groups are formed. I trust you to communicate with me about your group’s effort. Keep in mind, unfairly evaluating group members can inflate or deflate grades and affect class rank. It is in your best interest to be fair to each other. Professionalism while working in groups will create effective collaboration. Professionalism includes focusing on the assignment and not attacking other student’s character for any reason.

**Failure to work with your group will result in a lower grade for yourself and may affect other group members.** Any problems with group work must be reported to the teacher immediately. If a group member becomes ill, alterations to your assignment will be made to accommodate for all members of the group.

**Google Docs & Group Work:** if you are using a google sharable document on a group assignment, it is your responsibility to not share your password. Using someone’s password to steal their intellectual property and turn it in as your own equates to theft and cheating. **If you share your password with a “friend” and they take your work, you are responsible for the act as well.**

1. Assignments will be posted on Schoology and it is the student’s responsibility to read the work updates, print assignments for class, and come to class prepared every day, having read any assignments, completed homework. You may be quizzed or assessed over any assigned material at my discretion.
2. ***Cheating/Plagiarizing*** Austin High School values class and character, and Bulldogs do not lie, cheat, or steal, nor do we tolerate those who do. Please keep in mind that academic integrity is crucial. Being a senior student means that you are a leader, and with this gift of intelligence comes great responsibility. Therefore, make choices with honesty and integrity and allow yourself time to do your work so you do not have to compromise your integrity. High school is as much about implementing time management with discipline as it is learning about academics. Both are valuable assets to your future success. **Cheating will result in a zero, a discipline referral, and parent contact.**

* Cheating includes letting others copy your answers on homework, classwork, or any other type of assignment. Notice that there is a difference between supporting another student while doing homework and flat out copying their work.
* Cheating is sharing test questions/ answers with other classes.
* Cheating/plagiarizing (copying more than three words of a scholar’s work and calling it your own)
* Cheating is taking pictures of other student’s work, the teacher’s power points, tests, quizzes, and then distributing to others and copying it as your own. This is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Your grades will be determined by your major tests, journal, papers, homework, and class participation. My grading scale is as follows. A= 100-90 B= 89-80 C=79-70 F=69-0

7. **Late Work: Daily Grades and Major Grades with assigned due dates**

In order to create an expectation of accountability consistent with FBISD’s “Profile of a Graduate”, we expect students to turn their work in a timely manner. The late work policy at Austin High school reflects these expectations. In the English Department, the revising and editing process is an essential skill and all drafts and papers, will be subject to alternate deadlines and consequences as failure to have your draft can disrupt the learning process. **If an assignment is due at the beginning of the period and you turn it in at the end of class, it is late and you will not receive full credit.**

The late policy is as follows for daily grades that are not process writing pieces:

Same day late-10 points

1 day late -15 points

2 days late – 15 points for each day

Any late work received after 2 days is accepted at teacher discretion. Your parent will receive notification of your failure to turn in work.

8. Major Grade assignments **must be uploaded to be graded on either turnitin.com (for all papers) or Schoology (for all projects)** as specified by the teacher. **Failure to do so will result in a zero**. All written or technological parts must be uploaded. You may link Prezi’s or large video files via YouTube on Schoology. Email me the assignment as a time stamp last resource. **Failure to upload or email will result in a zero.**

9. Handwriting: If I cannot read your handwriting, I cannot grade your work. Slow down and take your time.

10**. Curriculum:**

Personal Narrative, Professional/Technical Writing, & Argument essays: Controversial topics, college essays, media literacy, Argument, Rhetorical Analysis including non-fiction and poetry.

Discussion skills with peers, small groups, teacher, class discussion.

**You are required to read one Novel own you own each semester.**

**Absences**

**If you are absent, when an assignment is due, it is due the day that you return.** This policy is not for major grades, ONLY DAILY! Major grades need to be uploaded the day that they are due. Please email me for make-up work to make arrangements to turn assignments in.

* It is up to you to arrange any missed work and talk to the teacher, check Schoology for the assignment, and arrange for either tutorials, a new due date, or a make-up assessment date. **Please note, if you are absent the day of a test, the make-up test will be of different format, most likely short answer or essay.**
* If you are absent for a class participation assignment or group work, you will be given an alternate assignment to make up the grade which may require you to write a paper or do editing on your own.
* Alternative assignments/Re-Assessment/Essays: You may take an alternative test/exam for any major grade assessment or revise and essay that scores below a 70. This will involve coming in for a separate tutorial session scheduled by the teacher.

**Tutorials/Make up Days:** Wed. and Thur. *You must sign up , let me know that you are coming, and get a pass.*

**Schoology:** You will be placed in your Schoology courses. Throughout the year, we may teach in a flipped format, where you will have to read the notes, watch videos, access articles/readings, complete grammar grab bags, take assessments, and write discussion posts via Schoology.

**Teams**- functions like zoom and is where all of our synchronous learning will take place. All of the links will be your Schoology page.

**Supplies:**

Folder or binder for readings, notes, homework, etc.

2 Spiral notebook (2 subject minimum)

Loose leaf paper for Timed Writes.

Pens not metallic or pastel colors.

Pencil for drafts, quizzes, or assessments.

Colored pens and highlighters for annotations

Post-its notes for peer grading and annotations.

Google Drive or flash drive for research

Sanitizer

Access to a Printer to print drafts of papers as needed

**Papers--**\*To be accepted, all major papers must be typed, double-spaced and stapled, unless specified by your teacher.   
\* All papers turned in should have the proper MLA heading in the top left hand corner of page 1 of your paper.

Your Name Example: Senior student

My Name: Mrs. Minter

English IV- period# English IV Period #

Day Month Year 25 August 2021 (notice date is inverted)

MLA Header in the top right hand margin with last name and page number.

(Example) L. Name 2

**English IV Syllabus & Class Contract 2021-2022**

The rules for this class need to stay in the binder of each student and should be brought to class every day. It should be the first thing in the binder with your Syllabus: Students need to initial by every heading in bold and sign below. This acknowledges that the syllabus has been read and explained to the student and that the student understands everything within the syllabus. Parents please initial by the bold heading as well. Parents please fill out and sign the information below. We will keep these forms all year. If you switch teachers, you need to collect your signed form from you teacher and bring this to your new teacher.

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Student/Parent/Teacher Agreement for English IV**

*By signing this paper, I understand that I have read and am responsible & accountable for all of the information in the English IV Syllabus and Class Rules.*

Parent’s Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Best way to contact you and times: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Technology Access:**

I currently have access to technology at home including Internet, computer, cell-phone or printer \_\_\_\_\_\_

I have limited access to technology at home. \_\_\_\_\_

I currently do not have access to technology at home. \_\_\_\_\_

Help me help you by listing your technology needs below.

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If there are any novels or subject matters you have concerns reading, watching, or discussing in class, please inform me as soon as possible so that I can provide an alternative assignment. Please let me know here, in person, or send me an email to the address below.

If you have any questions, please email me at

Shawnya.minter@fortbendisd.com