# SYLLABUS – APPLIED ENGLISH I, II

**Elkins High School 2024-25**

Mrs Lynne Baker lynne.baker@fortbendisd.com

Elkins High School Room 281 634 5057

7007 Knights Court Missouri City, Texas 77459

Course Description

In Applied English I and II we are developing our abilities to critically read, think, discuss, research (inquiry), and write about literature and life. Looking through the Author’s Purpose and Author’s Craft Lens as both Readers and Writers, we will explore the literary forms and terms associated with assigned short stories, poems, essays, novels, plays and non-fiction texts.

We will practice Reading and Writing strategies that increase our reading and comprehension skills. We will compare and contrast different texts and genres by applying close reading techniques. We will read class texts and be responsible for Self-Selected Independent Reading.

Key Vocabulary –everyday, academic and content-specific - will be addressed in context of our reading and writing, developing our ability to understand text and express our ideas. Using the 5 step writing process, students will produce several forms of writing during the school year: Argumentative, Literary and Informational/Expository, aligned with the ELA FBISD Curriculum and TEKS.

**Classroom Expectations & Procedures**

1. Students will be **seated and ready to work** when the bell rings. FBISD issued Laptops should be charged and ready to go. Phones are in phone pockets or put away in backpack. All work will be completed using your school issued laptop or on paper (with permisiion) but MUST be transferred to computer in order to be graded and entered in Schoology and Skyward.
2. Maintenance duties - Sharpening pencils, throwing away trash, and papers, etc. should be done before or after class.
3. Please, speak with me before or after class about any personal concerns.
4. **10-10 RULE** Students will use restroom or locker before or after class. It is important you are in class to participate - listen, learn, write, read, explore, etc. Students are trusted to use the **restroom when needed** -see below\*

\*Students will sign in and out with their name and time.\*Students will return to class within 6 minutes. Any other errand requires the teacher’s permission and a specific/detailed pass.

 \*Students will follow the **10/10 rule** and cannot leave during teacher direct instruction.

 \*Students who abuse this right or do not follow instructions will forfeit their right to use the restroom freely.

Tardies are strictly enforced. We follow the **EHS Tardy Policy**. Student must be escorted to the classroom from a Tardy station or arrive with an EHS official, signed pass to join the class after the bell has rung.\* You will be marked **ABSENT if you miss 20 minutes of class.** No LATE category- except for period 3.

1. Absent students are responsible for making up **missed work**. Missing Assignments are indicated in your Schoology gradebook. Click on the missing assignment and complete it. I am available before or after class and during lunch tutorial time if you have questions.
2. I will always be honest with you, and I expect the same in return. That **honesty** includes doing your own work. You can expect that if you get caught cheating, you will receive a zero on the assignment, including tests, along with a write-up. If someone is helping you cheat (i.e. giving you the homework to copy), both of you will receive zeroes and write-ups. Plagiarism and cheating will have serious consequences for an honors student (NHS, etc.).
3. We will exit through the bus ramp door next to our room during a **fire drill**. For your safety and the safety of others, please walk quickly, remain quiet, and always stay with our class.
4. Please respect the classroom and classroom property – books, supplies, computers, furniture. Please **ask for permission** before taking anything from my desk, file cabinet or storage cabinets. I will never go through your belongings out of respect for you and your space; please reciprocate regarding my personal belongings.
5. Use the pre-dismissal time to check your surroundings and pack your belongings. Students are expected to stay in their seats until the **dismissal bell** rings, and I have dismissed the class. DO NOT stand/line up before dismissal to ensure the safety of all students.
6. Drinking water is allowed in the classroom - hydration is good for the brain. Eating food and snacks is not allowed in the classroom.
7. Above all, respect is expected in this classroom. I will treat you with respect, and I expect you will do the same with me and others in the class. This classroom is to be **a place where students feel safe**; therefore, derogatory comments and disrespectful treatment of another is not acceptable. If you have a problem with someone, as hard as it may be, please leave it at the door. Remember, above all this is a place for

learning. If you are disrupting your or another students’ educational opportunity, I will address your behavior with you, your parent/guardian, your monitoring teacher, your counselor, and your AP.

# TEACHER EXPECTATIONS

**BE RESPECTFUL** Listen respectfully when someone is talking.

Respect your classmates’ right to learn.

**BE PREPARED** Complete all assignments according to instructions

and plan to share. School rules prohibit students leaving the room during first and last 10 minutes of class. Plan a rest room break during passing time.

**BE PROMPT** Be seated at your desk with materials\* when tardy bell rings.

\*(Laptop, pen/pencil, notebook, journal, binder, textbook,assignment)

**BE MINDFUL** Follow classroom directions the first time they are given.

Follow all school and FBISD expectations (see student handbook). Stay seated until dismissed by the teacher- not the bell.

**BE RESPONSIBLE** You are responsible for your actions.

# Good Choices = Overall Success!

**CONSEQUENCES of Poor Choices**

* 1. Warning
	2. Conference with student – discuss solutions
	3. Parent and Monitoring teacher contact
	4. Parent Conference or staffing

 5 Referral to Administrator after 3 incidents. (4th citation -Skyward Referral)

# Personal Supplies

#  FBISD LAPTOP EVERY DAY \_- CHARGED

Notebook/Lined paper wide-ruled, 3-holed punched

Composition Notebook Journal will remain in classroom and be used for

notes, vocabulary, grammar practice, warm ups, drafts and ideas, writing prompts, and as a reference and study guide for tests and exams.

Pencils Student must bring a pencil to class every day

**Classroom Supplies**

will be used in classroom by all, and donations are greatly appreciated!

Lined notebook paper, notebooks

Colored printer paper or construction paper pencils, erasers

3x5 cards

Multi-colored Crayola Markers, Highlighters, Sharpies Post-it Notes multi-colored

File folders

Lightly read magazines

**Kleenex,** Hand Sanitizer, Moisturizing Lotion

# GRADES

 **9-WEEK Grading Period** at least 3 Major Grades and 6 Minor Grades per 9- week Term

# Major Grades

minimum of **3** major grades from Tests, Projects or Journal

Tests - will be announced at least 1 week in advance Projects-will be assigned at least 2 weeks ahead of due date

# Notebook/Class Journal Check – Students are expected to keep all assigned work in their notebook, binder or Class Journal complete and up to date. These will remain in the classroom so they are accessible for my review and assessment.

**Minor Grades**

minimum of **6** minor grades from quizzes, classwork, or homework Quizzes - announced or unannounced (pop-quiz)

Classwork – work assigned in class to be completed during the class period, including but not limited to: warm-ups, writing prompts, group activity, Cornell notes, graphic organizer

Participation – class discussions and group work

**Semester Exams** Semester Exams in December and May cover each 18- week Semester. Final Exam exemptions will depend on attendance for the year – Both semesters attendance records will apply.

# Make-Up Work \*\*

DAILY: Student is responsible to make up any missed work within the same number of days student was absent. Excessively late work may receive point deductions at the teacher’s discretion.

TESTS: If you miss a MAJOR GRADE Test with an excused absence, please be prepared to take the test during the next class period.

\*\* Individual circumstances will be individually addressed with student and guardian consensus

# TUTORIALS: Per Tutorial Schedule or can be scheduled by Student and Teacher

**RETESTING AND RETEACHING**

If retesting is necessary, it must be student requested, followed by attendance at a least one after or before school tutorial, and the request and retest must be completed within seven days. According to district policy, reteaching does not require re-scoring.

**TECHNOLOGY USE AND CELL PHONE POLICY**

I will use Schoology to engage students in discussions, post assignments and instructions. Students will not have access to their phone while inside the classroom, without teacher permission or completing assignments requiring internet access. I have adopted this policy, as recent studies have indicated, “when students do not have the freedom of accessing their phones during school hours, they are more engaged socially and academically” (<https://www.awayfortheday.org/voices-of-change/>)

**KNIGHTS ARE FOR READING**

One of the campus wide initiatives is now an official FBISD ELA curriculum requirement. In order to cultivate a love a reading within all students and staff, we will read a self or class selected text for independent reading 30 minutes every week. Reading is not just a focus for an ELA class; regular reading can help in all facets of life.

In English I and II, we expect ALL students to be reading two texts simultaneously. One text will be the focus of our lesson/unit, the second, a student or class selected text or independent read. To provide more students with access to books that interest them, I am building up our classroom library. Loved and Read Young Adult Novels and Non-fiction are always welcome. Fort Bend Education Foundation Grants have been a great source of new and current titles for our classroom. Please send along books, any genre and classroom appropriate, you would like to donate to our classroom library.

**Thank You! Let’s Have a Great Year!** Mrs. Lynne Baker

Please sign and return this last page by August 31, 2024. I will also post an acknowledgement form/page/discussion on schoology.

My Parent/Guardian(s) and I have read and understood the expectations of Mrs. Baker’s Applied English Classroom. I am responsible for the information on this syllabus.

Student Name, Course, and period

Student Signature & Date

Parent/Guardian Name, Signature, & Date

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