

Valley High School
English 2
Instructor: Mrs. Carlson
Email: carlson-tookera@wcsdre1.org
Website: carlsonvhs.weebly.com

Welcome to English 2 for 2017-2018 school year! This course will be challenging for each of you individually. You will read and analyze a variety of literary mediums. You will learn to analyze themes and social applications. You will write analytically about literature that includes both fiction and non-fiction. I encourage each of you to question everything you read and experience, but it is mandatory that you do so respectfully and with consideration of your peers.

You will be expected to present in front of the class on a regular basis. I want you to demonstrate your artistic talents and develop new ones. You will be asked to think about your own strengths and weaknesses and focus on those differently for each assignment. Remember, growth can be experienced in a variety of ways. Every year of your academic career will stretch you in new ways; learn to embrace and anticipate challenge and all the lessons it brings you through both success and failure.

Course Description:

English 2 is a course designed to develop advanced language, literature, and analysis skills. Literary analysis, expressive writing and persuasive techniques are required. This course will prepare students for future testing while building the foundation to move on in the future courses for English and otherwise. Evidence of high-level thinking and independent work is expected and required.

Course Instruction:

This course consists of lectures, use of audio and visual media, readings from required text and supplementary reading material, classroom discussions, technology-mediated interactions, student presentations, and small group activities and student inquiry.

Required Texts:

Dandelion Wine - Ray Bradbury
Animal Farm - George Orwell
The Princess Bride - William Goldman
Antigone- Sophocles
Multiple Independent Reading Books

Required Materials:

Laptop
Laptop charger
Writing utensils (pens/pencils)

Lined paper (notebook or loose-leaf)

Assigned reading materials (books, handouts, packets, etc.)

Google account (for Google Documents, Calendar, etc.)

Independent Reading Projects:

Each quarter, you will be required to read a novel of your choosing and complete a project (which will change from quarter to quarter). While class time may be given, don't bank on it.

Late Work:

Late work is annoying! Due dates are reasonably set for this course. If you turn work in late, you get a *three-day* window per school policy. Your **MAXIMUM** grade on this work will be a 60%, but that is only if you would have earned a 100% on it had it been turned in on time.

I will grant extensions for emergencies only, but you must contact me individually outside of class time, prior to the day the assignment is due.

Attendance, Preparation, and Participation

Students are expected to maintain high standards of ethical and professional conduct. This includes attending class, being adequately prepared, contributing to class discussions, submitting high quality work and representing your own work fairly and honestly.

As an important member of a classroom community, attendance and punctuality is mandatory. You must actively engage in class and group work to maximize your learning in this course.

If you must miss a class, it is the responsibility of the student to obtain course information that is missed during the absence. Unexcused absences will result in a lower grade.

Make-up Policy:

You are responsible for any and all make-up work you miss due to an absence. School policy will be followed as to the number and label of absences. Quizzes and tests must be made up within one week or the grade will permanently become a zero.

Additionally, if you are home ill and know how to use a phone or a computer, you can check the website, or email me during the school day and get the assignments so you don't fall behind. In order to make up missed work, the absence must be excused. You have the same number of days absent to make up any missed work. Any work assigned before the absence will be collected on the due date or the first day of the student's return. When you return from an absence, it is your responsibility to get make-up work.

Grading:

Grades are based on a total points system and earned by the student based upon the following percentages:

100-90% - A

89-80% - B

79-70% - C

69-60% - D

< 60% - F

*To calculate your grade, divide the number points earned by the number of total points in the gradebook.

Tardy Policy:

1st offense: verbal warning

2nd offense: conference with student

3rd offense: parent contacted and detention assigned with teacher

4th offense: office referral

Cheating and Plagiarism:

Academic Honesty

As a VHS student, it is an expectation that students are honest in all personal and academic endeavors. Academic Honesty requires students' to present work that is their own—by no means is plagiarism of any kind acceptable in any academic setting. In the event of ANY academic dishonesty, a student will receive ZERO credit on an assignment and may be subject to further disciplinary action by teacher, administration, school and/or district.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS:

Students will adhere to all of the VHS policies and Weld County School District RE-1's "Code of Conduct" at all times.

1. Achieve:

- Be on time.
- Bring the required materials with you to every class.
- Do what you are asked to do, when you are asked to do it.
- Refer to any and all assignment sheets and rubrics for expectations.

2. Respect:

- Your space and your belongings.
- The space and belongings of others.
- Your ideas and opinions.
- The ideas and opinions of others.

3. Engage:

- Participate (speaking, listening, take notes, etc.) during every class.
- Complete assignments in-full and on-time.
- Help your classmates when they need a hand.
- Speak to the teacher as soon as a problem arises.
- Be present in all class periods.

Food and Drink Policy:

In my classroom, you have permission to have food and drink during class. I only ask you please keep in mind the following rules:

- If you choose to eat **Takis** or **Spicy/Fire Cheetos** you will not be allowed to go to the bathroom to wash your hands or go get a drink if they're too messy or spicy. These snacks can be VERY distracting. Do not abuse the privilege.
- Only snack type foods will be permitted. Eating your lunch during class will not be allowed. (No Pizza Time, etc.)
- No open containers (Canned Soda, Monsters, etc.). Only drinks with sealable tops are permitted.
- You made a mess? You clean it up!
- Please refrain from eating any food during class discussions, presentations, etc. Be Respectful! ▢
- If at any time your food or drink becomes a disruption to the learning environment I reserve the right to ask you to put/throw it away!

COURSE OBJECTIVES (as determined by Colorado State Standards for Grade 10)

Students will:

1. Speak and listen for a variety of purposes and audiences.
2. Read to determine author's purpose (style, implicit and explicit messages), analyze rhetorical strategies used to structure an argument.
3. Write for a variety of purposes and audiences, revise writing according to specific criteria, and publish writing using a variety of mediums.
4. Discern the validity of an author's reasoning and present conclusions using a variety of mediums.

Ultimately, I reserve the right to modify any part of these classroom expectations at any time. You are also a member of this class, so if there is anything that needs to be added or addressed, please come talk to me. I would love to hear your input. Welcome to my class, I look forward to working with you this year!!

ENG 2 - Semester 1

Major Due Dates

*Note: Each unit will also have a short multiple choice exam over the key terms and concepts from the unit. These are not content-based—instead, they will put the analytical skills taught in the unit to the test.

Ray Bradbury Author Study Final Paper:

Students will create a vignette (short personal narrative) of at least 500 words. These vignettes will be modeled after the rhetorical elements Ray Bradbury employs in the works we studied over the course of the unit. Students will utilize dialogue and sensory imagery to create a unique voice for their work.

Due: Week of September 5

Independent Reading Project—Fan Fiction:

During the first week of school, students will be asked to select an Independent Reading Novel of their choice. Over the course of the first quarter, students will have time inside of class (though time outside of class will also be required) to complete the novel and write a 1,000 word minimum fan fiction. This fanfiction will focus on a story that is referenced in the text but never explicitly told.

Due: Week of October 3

Post-World War II Literature Unit Final Paper:

Students will create a written review of roughly 500 words of Death of Salesman or A Raisin in the Sun (depending on their class). These reviews will contain a brief summary, but they will primarily be textually-supported argument regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the play as interpreted by the student.

Due: Week of October 10

Allegory Novel Final Paper:

Students will do an open-book timed writing (one class period). Their objective is to analyze the novel in comparison to a short article which is related to the novel in regards to time period, setting, or culture in view how the novel could be better understood given the extra source.

Due: Week of November 14

Independent Reading Project—Memory String:

Students will, based on a novel of their choosing, create a memory string visual representation analyzing the characters, setting, conflict, climax and conclusion of the novel. Using supporting evidence of important events, students will recap the key elements of the novel. Over the course of the second quarter, students will have time inside of class (though time outside of class will also be required) to complete the novel and create the memory string.

Due: Week of November 28

Film Study Final Paper:

Students will do a timed writing (one class period) to analyze two still images from two separate movies. The prompt will ask students to view how the images were created to establish a certain idea by drawing on the terminology and concepts from the film study unit.

Due: Week of December 5

This page MUST be signed and submitted back to Mrs. Carlson by Friday, August 11, 2017.

Directions: Please ask your VHS student to walk you through the following programs or documents that will be used for Mrs. Carlson's class:

- Class Weebly page: www.carlsonvhs.weebly.com
- Google Classroom: must have a code to join
- Class syllabus: saved in Google Drive

STUDENT NAME: _____ HOUR: _____

PARENT NAME: _____

PREFERRED CONTACT: Phone: _____

Email: _____

I have read the class syllabus and agree to these terms for the remainder of the school year.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____