

**Valley High School**  
**Honors English 2**  
**Instructor: Mrs. Carlson**  
**Website:** [www.carlsonvhs.weebly.com](http://www.carlsonvhs.weebly.com)  
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***Welcome to Honors English 2!*** This is a fast-paced course designed for students who are ready for a challenge in language arts. This course also serves as a prerequisite for Advanced Placement Language and Composition and subsequent AP and concurrent enrollment courses. This course heavily emphasizes drama and novels; in addition, you will be reading a variety of supplemental material, engaging in various projects, and preparing course-related presentations. Here's what you can expect:

- 2-3 hours of homework per week
- Reading assignments (packet, passage, chapter, act) per night
- Graded discussions in which you prepare in advance
- Group and individual projects
- Annotated texts (when applicable)
- Timed writings (AP-style in-class essays)
- Daily writing assignments
- Reinforcement of AP terminology
- Introduction to literary theory

**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.

In addition, students will also participate in multiple AP-style prompts, writing assignments, projects, and vocabulary acquisition.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS**

Laptop

Laptop charger

Writing utensils (pens/pencils)

Lined paper (notebook or loose-leaf)

Assigned reading materials (book, handout, packet)

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

## TEXTS

*A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry

*Antigone* by Sophocles

*Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller

*Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck

*Othello* by William Shakespeare

Film study

Various poetry, nonfiction, and short stories

## COURSE INSTRUCTION

The content of this course will be taught using lecture, group work, guided reading, independent reading, student inquiry, and evaluations of student understanding.

## STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

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

**WE     Achieve     VIKINGS**  
**Respect**  
**Engage**

### 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.

## GRADES

Grades are based on a total points system (not weighted categories) and earned by the student based upon the following percentages:

100-90.0% = A

89.4-80.0% = B

79.4-70.0% = C

69.4-60.0% = D

< 60% = F

To calculate your grade, divide the number of points earned by the number of total points in the gradebook. Your grade will be divided into the following categories: In-Class/Homework, Quizzes/Checkpoints, Projects/Tests/Essays, and Final Exam.

## 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.

## TARDY POLICY

- 1st offense: verbal warning
- 2nd offense: conference with student
- 3rd offense: parent contacted and detention assigned with teacher
- 4th offense: office referral

**LATE/MISSED WORK-** Late work is defined as work that is not turned in at the beginning of the class they day it is due.

- Assignments submitted no more than 2 days after the due date may receive up to 60% of full credit. Assignments more than 2 days late will receive no credit.
- Any missed tests or quizzes will need to be scheduled with me as soon as possible. If the absence is planned, the test should be taken ahead of time.
- In the event that the absence is unexpected, students have ONE day to plan a make-up time that is within ONE WEEK of the original test day.
- **ALWAYS** look at the Weebly page for an updated list of assignments.

## GENERAL VHS POLICIES

- Drinks are allowed in a sealed container and should be kept on the floor. Food is allowed in single-serving packages only.
- No phones in the classroom.
- Earbuds will be used for academic purposes only.
- Use your laptop for academic purposes only in the classroom.

### **WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM ME:**

- I will deliver quality, standards-based lessons according to Weld County RE-1 curriculum, Colorado state standards, and standards defined by Common Core.
- I will do my best to prepare you for work-readiness and post-secondary education.
- I will update grades once a week.
- I will grade and provide verbal and written feedback in a timely manner.
- I will keep my Weebly page updated once a week.
- I will make time for extra help if a student expresses a need.
- Available times: before school, after school, 2nd hour (plan), 7th hour (plan). If none of these times work for you, please feel free to email me (no later than 9 PM!)

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.

## **HON 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.

#### **Synthesis Questions Final Project:**

Students will find sources and create a cohesive synthesis questions assessment.

**Due: Week of September 11**

#### **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**

#### **Drama Argumentative Essay:**

Students will use “A Raisin in the Sun” and “Death of a Salesman” as supporting evidence to answer an argumentative prompt in essay format.

**Due: Week of November 28**

#### **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**

**Synthesis Question Final Exam:**

Students will respond to an AP style Synthesis Question test.

**Due: December 5 (Finals Week)**

**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](http://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: \_\_\_\_\_