

English I 2024-2025 Syllabus

Mrs. Melissa Cockburn

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Room: N224

School Phone: (931) 967-2821

Class Objective: In English I this year, we will increase our abilities in the areas of language, reading, speaking, listening, and writing as outlined in the Tennessee ELA Academic Standards. To prepare students for future success as confident and effective communicators, varied instructional methods and differentiated learning activities will be utilized to cover both classic and modern works. In addition, we will produce and analyze writing using the following writing styles: narrative, descriptive, expository/informative, and argumentative.

Course Description: English I will develop reading skills necessary for word recognition, comprehension, interpretation, analysis, evaluation, and appreciation of the written text. Students will study grammar and usage, composition, various genres of literature, and literature-based vocabulary. The student will take an English I end-of-course test (EOC) upon completion of the course.

For TN ELA State Standards, please consult the following website:

<https://www.tn.gov/education/districts/academic-standards/english-language-arts-standards.html>

Materials Needed:

- binder or folder
- cheap earbuds for the Chromebook
- ruled paper
- # 2 pencils
- pens (black or blue)
- highlighters (4 different colors)

Resources:

Textbook: Pearson- *My Perspectives English Language Arts*

Note: Consumable textbooks will be provided.

Grammar: Teacher provided resources

Novels: *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

Note: We have class sets of the novels for classroom use.

General Expectations:

Attendance/Make-Up Work/Late Work:

The FCHS attendance and make-up policies will be enforced in this class. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that attendance requirements are met and to obtain and complete make-up work to the satisfaction of the teacher. As a minimum, a student will be allowed an equal number of days to complete the make-up work as the number of days that were missed. More time for make-up work may be granted in special circumstances by making arrangements with the teacher involved.

A student who does not have an assignment completed and ready to turn in the day the assignment is due will receive a twenty-percentage (20%) point deduction and will be given one additional day to turn in the assignment. Teachers are not required to accept a late assignment after the following day the assignment is due.

A student is allowed two (2) late assignments per semester. After the second late assignment, the teacher may assign a grade of zero (0) for each subsequent late assignment. A student is responsible for arranging additional time with his/her teacher(s) if the situation warrants.

- Students are encouraged to use Google Calendar for upcoming due dates and to check Google Classroom for any assignments missed due to an absence.
- If the student needs assistance with missed assignments, the student needs to set up a time for after school academic assistance.

Classroom Expectations, Policies, & Rules:

- Respect me, respect others, and respect yourself!
- Come to class prepared. (Bring ALL materials, homework, and a CHARGED Chromebook.)
- Listen and follow both verbal and written directions.
- Be in your seat working on bell work when the tardy bell rings.
- Sit quietly when there are announcements or when someone comes to the door.
- Do your part in creating a caring environment conducive to learning by being positive, present, honest, appropriate, and ready to learn.
- Food and drink are allowed in the classroom; however, if they become a distraction or mess, the privilege will be revoked.
- Students caught cheating, plagiarizing, or using artificial intelligence will be given a grade of ZERO and a discipline referral.
- Using your cell phone in class will result in confiscation of the phone.
- We will work bell to bell; therefore, do not line up at the door!

All policies outlined in the school handbook will be followed. Discipline consequences for breaking school and classroom rules will result in the following:

1. Verbal warning
2. Personal conference
3. Parental involvement
4. Discipline referral

Grades:

Scale	
A	90-100
B	80 - 89
C	70 - 79
D	60 - 69
F	0 - 59

Categories

Tests/Projects/ Presentations/Papers (includes notebook)—50%

- This class will **require** a final exam. Each student is expected to keep an English I notebook/folder. An unannounced notebook/folder test may occur during the course. (Keep the notebook/folder organized. Bring it to class every day.)

Assignments (includes bell work, classwork, homework, & quizzes)—50%

- Bell work and homework will be assigned almost every class period, and students are expected to have it completed at the beginning of the next class.
- Classwork will require both working independently and collaboratively, answering questions, remaining on task, etc.
- Assignments will be graded based upon effort, completeness, and/or correctness.
- Announced or unannounced quizzes will be given throughout the semester to check for understanding and to drive instruction.
- Students and parents should login to Skyward regularly to check grades.
- Students should expect to prepare and complete assignments by using traditional pencil and paper and technology.

*****This class will also require a state-mandated test which is a percentage of your final grade. *****

I am excited to work with you to ensure that we have a challenging, fun semester that results in academic progress. I would appreciate your support to ensure this happens:

- Ask for additional help **before** we move on to the next skill or task. Productive struggle leads to understanding. However, frustration is counterproductive to learning and achievement.
- Appreciate the importance of homework and hard work. I do not assign “busy work,” but you will have homework assigned to help you retain previously learned material. Due to time constraints, homework will include reading assignments.
- Stay up to date on your assignments; check Google Classroom, and utilize your Google Calendar.
- Participate in class by listening, asking questions, and being an active contributor to collaborative assignments.

Teacher Communication: Please, feel free to contact me with any questions.

Email is the best way to reach me at melissa.cockburn@fcstn.net. However, you may also call the school phone and leave me a message. If you request a conference, please contact me and provide a few times and dates that you are available; I will do my best to meet you at one of those times.

Note: If deemed necessary, changes to this syllabus will be made.

Mrs. Cockburn's English 1 Syllabus Acknowledgement: Return this completed page to Mrs. Cockburn.

Please, sign below acknowledging the following:

- You have read the syllabus and understand the requirements, policies, and expectations for English I.
- You are expected to monitor your student's grades using Skyward, the online information system.
- You realize that this class requires a semester exam and state mandated end-of-course test.

Student Name (Print)

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Email : _____

Parent/Guardian Phone #: _____

Please use the following space to notify me, Mrs. Cockburn, of any information that you believe is important for me to be aware of while teaching your child. This may include medical information, lack of reliable Internet use at home, sports/extracurricular activities, areas of struggles, strengths, personal interests, or anything else. All information provided will remain confidential and will be used only to better the student's learning experience.
