

Reid Ross Classical School
English I/English I Honors Course Syllabus

Instructor: Mrs. Christen Tedder

Room Number: 134

Tutoring Hours: Tuesday (3:30p.m.-4:30p.m.)/Wednesday (3:30p.m.-4:30p.m.)/Friday (3:30p.m.-4:30p.m.) by appointment

Planning Period: 2nd block

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Course Outline

The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects (“the Standards”) are the culmination of an extended, broad-based effort to fulfill the charge issued by the states to create the next generation of K–12 standards in order to help ensure that all students are college and career ready in literacy no later than the end of high school. As specified by CCSSO (the Council of Chief State School Officers) and NGA (the National Governors Association), the Standards are (1) research and evidence based, (2) aligned with college and work expectations, (3) rigorous, and (4) internationally benchmarked. A particular standard was included in the document only when the best available evidence indicated that its mastery was essential for college and career readiness in a twenty-first-century, globally competitive society. As a natural outgrowth of meeting the charge to define college and career readiness, the Standards also lay out a vision of what it means to be a literate person in the twenty-first century. Indeed, the skills and understandings students are expected to demonstrate have wide applicability outside the classroom or workplace. Students who meet the Standards readily undertake the close, attentive reading that is at the heart of understanding and enjoying complex works of literature. They habitually perform the critical reading necessary to pick carefully through the staggering amount of information available today in print and digitally. They actively seek the wide, deep, and thoughtful engagement with high-quality literary and informational texts that builds knowledge, enlarges experience, and broadens worldviews. They reflexively demonstrate the cogent reasoning and use of evidence that is essential to both private deliberation and responsible citizenship in a democratic republic. In short, students who meet the Standards develop the skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening that are the foundation for any creative and purposeful expression in language (*Common Core State Standards Initiative*).

English I continues to strengthen the students' reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students, who are designated as honors students, must read additional novels and complete additional projects in order to complete the required curriculum of study. There will be a Final Exam for this class. Students enrolled in the course will be expected to take the state test for English I (known as the Final Exam) given at the end of the semester. The students will study the following units:

- Unit 1---Literary Elements and the Short Story
- Unit 2---The Novel--Honor
- Unit 3---Poetry--Beauty
- Unit 4---Drama--Fate
- Unit 5---Epic Poetry--Heroism
- Unit 6---Literary Nonfiction—Reflection (The Memoir, the Essay, and the Speech)

***There will be controversial topics discussed in this class as part of the curriculum. There will be no attempt to change any person’s beliefs or opinions. The course will emphasize eliminating personal beliefs or opinions from formal writing assignments.

Required Materials

- Holt *Elements of Literature: Third Course* textbook (issued by the instructor)
- Holt *Elements of Literature: World Literature* textbook (issued by the instructor)
- The students must read the following novel and complete a novel project:
 - *To Kill a Mockingbird*-Harper Lee
 - COPIES OF THE NOVELS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE INSTRUCTOR
 - Due to limited supply of instructor copies, students who purchase their own copies of the novel will be given extra Tedder Dollars
- Honors students will be required to read the following novels and to complete additional novel projects:
 - *The Glass Menagerie*-Tennessee Williams (STUDENTS MUST ACQUIRE A COPY THEMSELVES)
 - *Fahrenheit 451*-Ray Bradbury (issued by the instructor)
- Three ring binder notebook (must bring to class everyday no matter what we are doing)
- Loose-leaf white notebook paper
- Pencils/writing instrument

- Pens (black or blue, various colors for revising/editing)
- Highlighters
- Poster board, crayons, markers, colored pencils, white paper, etcetera, for various projects throughout the year
- Flash drive 1-2 gigabytes minimum
- Working email address
- ***Materials can always be given to the instructor throughout the semester at any time for extra Tedder Dollars. This can include the following: **REAMS OF PRINTER PAPER (MOST NEEDED)**, dry erase markers for the board, boxes of tissue, hand sanitizer, candy, paper towels for cleaning, etcetera.

Any of the following items are most needed for extra credit in the form of Tedder Dollars in the classroom:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Printer paper | 8. Boxes of markers |
| 2. Pencils | 9. Boxes of Colored Pencils |
| 3. Pencil sharpeners | 10. Colored printer paper |
| 4. Clorox wipes | 11. Construction paper |
| 5. Black sharpie markers | 12. Jumbo erasers |
| 6. Vis-à-vis markers | 13. Boxes of tissue |
| 7. Candy for the classroom | 14. Pencil erasers |

Evaluation Criteria

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|------------------------------|-----|------------------------------|
| • Notebook/Participation | 10% | |
| • Homework/Classwork/Quizzes | 10% | |
| • Projects/Papers/Tests | 80% | (Final Exam Multiple Choice) |
| • State Final Exam | 20% | of your entire final grade |

Grading Policy

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89 |
| C | 70-79 |
| D | 60-69 |
| F | 59 and below |

Report 1 + Report 2 + Report 3 + Report 4 (80% of your English grade) + Final Exam (20% of your English grade)

Notebook/Participation

- Students are required to keep a notebook that will be checked at least once per grading period.
- There will be a 100-point participation grade each grading period. Participation includes the student's willingness to participate in the classroom. The students must willingly follow the instructions of the instructor, or they will lose points from their participation grade. This includes vocabulary warm-up, grammar exercises, general behavior, and etcetera.
- Each time the student is not prepared for class, he/she will lose 5 points from his/her participation grade. This includes the student's notebook and book.

***The notebook should consist of sections for the following:

- Final Exam preparation
- Literature
- Writing
- Homework/Classwork/Grammar

- ❖ There will be a multitude of handouts distributed in this class, which should be inserted into the students' notebooks. All papers should contain the student's name and should be organized chronologically by date.

Weekly Syllabus

- Students will be given a weekly syllabus with their weekly classwork and assignments.
- A copy of the syllabus also will be posted in the classroom on the wall above the pencil sharpener.
- Students should check this syllabus for their assignments when they are absent.
- Students should **THEN** see the absent folder for any copies of handouts needed. The absent folders are located on the top of the brown book case at the front of the classroom. The absent folders are the appropriately labeled drawers in the 3 drawer black storage container. You should check the appropriate drawer for your classwork.
- Students have 3 school days to make up any missed assignments/tests if they are absent on the day the assignment was given (This is Cumberland County School Policy).
- Assignments will not be allowed to be made up the day that grades must be posted. They must be made up at least one day before this date.
- It will be the **STUDENT'S** responsibility to obtain any missing notes or handouts from another classmate or from the teacher at an appropriate time when you have missed work, especially for any missed notes given for any upcoming quizzes or tests. It is not the teacher's responsibility to hunt you down to do your makeup work.

Homework

- All homework is due the next class day unless otherwise specified.
- Students should have their homework ready to be checked at the beginning of class.
- If a student is absent the day homework is due, the assignment will be due the day the student returns to school.
- If a student is absent the day the homework is assigned, he/she has 3 school days to make up the assignment (This is Cumberland County School Policy).

Tests and Quizzes

- Quizzes/pop quizzes will serve as a review.
- It is the student's responsibility to make up a test. Failure to do so will result in a zero.
- If a student misses the day of a test, he/she has 3 school days to make up the test (This is Cumberland County School Policy).
- If a student misses the day before a test only, he/she should be prepared to take the test when he/she returns to school. If there are unusual circumstances, the student should make arrangements with the teacher for the makeup of the test.
- If there are extenuating circumstances for either the student or for the instructor, due dates for tests can and will be re-scheduled at the instructor's discretion; this is all dependent upon other assignments/tests for the week, material to be discussed, projects to be collected, assemblies, and other unexpected events in the schedule. This is designed to achieve maximum productivity and learning time in the classroom.
- The schedule can and will change if the instructor is absent from school.
- Students are not permitted to have cell phones or other electronic devices on their desks during a test or other graded assignments. These items should be turned off and be out of sight. Using a cellphone during a test or other graded assignment is considered a form of cheating. You must always ask permission before assuming that is okay to have your cellphone out for any reason.

Projects/Papers

- Projects will be assigned during the semester.
- Special instructions will be sent home regarding the requirements for each project. The student must follow the specific instructions for each project/paper in order to receive full credit for the assignment.
- Late projects will result in a reduction of points (up to and including 1 letter grade).
- Late projects will only be accepted one day after the assigned due date.
- Presenting projects at the front of the classroom should you being a good presenter and a good audience member. There should not be any cursing, no negative attitudes, and no mocking of a person either presenting or sitting in the audience.
- **ALL** formal drafts/papers should be typed in 12 point Times New Roman font unless otherwise specified. Handwritten drafts/papers will not be accepted. If a student does not have access to a computer within the home, the student should make arrangements with the instructor to stay for tutoring to type his/her paper. Students can make arrangements to stay for tutoring to use the computers in the classroom Tuesday through Friday.
- All papers must be typed in Microsoft Word; Microsoft Works will not open on school computers. Do not use Microsoft Works.
- Students must have the required number of pages and all specifications for drafts/papers, or they will not be accepted. Failure to follow directions for drafts/papers will result in the student having to re-submit his/her paper to receive credit.
- Failure to submit the given rubric with the final project/paper will result in a loss of points from the final grade of the assignment (up to and including 1 letter grade).
- If a student is absent the day a project/paper assignment is due, the project/paper assignment is due the day the student returns to school.
- When a rewrite of a paper/draft is due, all previous drafts must be submitted with the paper/draft as well.
- Drafts for papers must be printed BEFORE coming to class, not at the start of class or during class. It is already too late at that point. Please come BEFORE your class starts to print your paper/project. My planning period is 2nd block. Please come to visit me for printing or for instruction on your papers/projects. Class time cannot be wasted on printing drafts. **PRINTING YOUR DRAFT DURING THE CLASS PERIOD WILL RESULT IN A LOSS OF POINTS (UP TO AND INCLUDING 1 LETTER GRADE).** I do not have enough paper or ink to print each person's draft.
- Students must have their draft accessible for the instructor to view it the day that the draft is due (i.e. emailed to yourself, emailed to instructor, saved on memory stick, saved on external hard drive, saved on laptop, and etcetera). **FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN A LOSS OF POINTS (UP TO AND INCLUDING 1 LETTER GRADE)!!!**
- Computer equipment problems/emergencies are not valid reasons for not submitting drafts on time. You are responsible for having ink for your printer and for making sure that your internet is working properly to submit your drafts on time for a full credit grade. There are multiple ways to get your assignment here: email it, print it here, save it on a flashdrive, and etcetera.
- If there are extenuating circumstances for either the student or for the instructor, due dates for projects and for papers can and will be re-scheduled at the instructor's discretion; this is all dependent upon other assignments/tests for the week, material to be discussed, projects to be collected, assemblies, and other unexpected events in the schedule. This is designed to achieve maximum productivity and learning time in the classroom.

- The schedule can and will change if the instructor is absent from school.
- If the instructor is absent from school, and there is a substitute, ALL completed student work will go in to the Student Work Turn-in Milk Crate located on the brown round table next to the White Board.
- If a student is caught plagiarizing or cheating, it will result in a **referral to the administration**.
- Cumberland County requires students to read and to do projects on four novels throughout the semester. Students, who are deemed to be honors, must complete additional novels/projects in order for them to fulfill their honors requirements and to proceed to the next grade level.
- Due to the nature of the course, re-teaching assignments may be given to achieve learning.

Late Assignments

- Late assignments will only be accepted one day after the assigned due date.
- A late assignment will result in a loss of one letter grade.
- Some points are better than no points!!!

Redos

- Redos are permitted at “*teacher discretion*.” This means that students and parents may not take the redo option for granted. You cannot refuse to do your work in the classroom for a redo.
- In order to redo, you must come in for after-school tutoring before redoing an assignment.
- For grading purposes, retakes or redos will not be given the last week of the grading period.

Absent Folder

- When students are absent from school, they need to check the absent folder on the top of the bookcase at the front of the room. All handouts from any missed classes will be in the absent folder with the student’s name at the top of it and the date it was placed in the folder. Please see this folder immediately before approaching the instructor about missed work. Pick up your work from the absent folder BEFORE the late bell rings, not during class.

Progress Reports

- Itemized progress reports of your grade will be sent home regarding your progress in the class on Fridays.
- Progress reports must be signed by a parent/guardian and returned to me the following Monday.
- You will be charged Tedder Dollars for not returning your signed Progress Reports to me on time.
- Please do not substitute a note for a progress report. I want the actual progress report that I distributed to you to be the same signed item that you are returning.

Classroom Decorum/Conduct

- Obey all rules in the County/School Student's Handbook.
- Come to class on time. You are late when the bell rings. 2 Lates=silent lunch detention hall with a phone call home to the parent. Any additional lates to class will result in Friday detention and then a referral to the administration. Every time you are late, it is -5 points off of your participation grade, and you do not get to make up the grammar bonus exercise for extra credit. Every time you are late, you will pay a fine in Tedder money, which goes up every quarter. Repeated tardies will not only result in parent contact/administrative referral but will also result in higher Tedder dollar fees. This includes being late from the lunch room. You are considered tardy if you are not in your seat by the time the late bell rings.
- By the time the bell rings, you must have a clean sheet of notebook paper out on your desk with a writing utensil. If you are using a pencil, and it must be sharpened, then you need to sharpen your pencil before the late bell rings. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LATE BELL RINGS TO SHARPEN YOUR PENCIL!!** When the late bell rings, you should have notebook paper (with your proper heading) and a writing utensil, ready to complete the day’s warm-up exercise.
- You must sit in your assigned seat, or you will be marked absent for the day (unless you are told to sit elsewhere in the classroom).
- You must take care of bathroom and personal needs before or at the end of class. Please do not ask to use the restroom in the middle of a lesson or class activity. A good time to go would be after you have finished your assignment, unless it is an extreme emergency. The procedure for the bathroom is to pay the Tedder tax and to fill out a planner for me for sign. Do not ask to go to the bathroom when I am giving directions or am explaining content.
- Also, please take care of all grooming in the restroom. Please do not spray any bathroom products in the classroom. This includes the following: hairspray, spritz, deodorant, lotion, gel, body spray, perfume, makeup, or any product that falls under this category. People have allergic reactions to these products of which you may be unaware. Do not have out any brushes, combs, or picks. All grooming must be done in the bathroom. It is always respectful to ask permission to use these products in someone else’s classroom before using them.
- If a student skips class the day an assignment is due, it will result in a referral to the administration. This includes being somewhere else for the entire class period as well as working on papers/projects in other areas of the building and then coming to class. Also, you must ask permission to go to the following places: guidance, Mrs. McLaurin’s office, the front office, the nurse, the bathroom,

your locker, the media center, the computer lab, or other classes in the building. If you show up to class with a pass from these places, and you have not asked my permission, then you have been skipping.

- Bring all required materials to class (textbook, novels, paper, pens/pencils, notebooks, homework). Every day you do not have your required materials, you will lose 5 points off of your participation grade for not being prepared. **THERE IS NO EXCUSE WHY YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR TEXTBOOK.** You will have 3 different sources of finding whether you need your textbook or not: the weekly syllabus in your notebook, the color-coded objective on the board, and the weekly syllabus posted in the classroom. You will pay a Tedder tax if you do not bring your required materials.
- Show respect for the instructor, fellow classmates, and the classroom. You will get 3 warnings to stop your behavior.
- Do not talk while I am talking. It is distracting to me and to other students in the classroom.
- Do not talk while another student is talking either. Allow the person, who was called on first, to speak. Then, raise your hand if you want the instructor to call on you in order to participate in classroom discussion.
- Do not throw objects in the classroom or at other people. This includes loaning a person a writing utensil from across the room.
- Keep your hands to yourself. Do not physically touch another person in the room in joking or out of malice. Also, do not touch other objects in the room without teacher permission such as the computer lab, fans, or classroom telephone. Always ask permission to use an item in the classroom. The items in the classroom belong to Mrs. Tedder. It is respectful to ask permission before taking something that does not belong to you.
- The students should not eat, drink, or chew in class without the teacher's permission. Do not bring back food from the cafeteria.
- Cellphones---cellphones should **ONLY** be used for instructional purposes. You should not be listening to headphones, playing games, listening to music, watching youtube, using social networking, or texting to others during class. If a parent is trying to contact you, he or she must contact you through the front office. You are not permitted to make phone calls to others or to talk on your cellphone in my classroom. If you must call home, you must go to the front office. Cellphones are not allowed to be plugged into the walls for charging. You are only permitted to have cellphones out in the classroom for instructional purposes; otherwise, you will be in violation of the **SHAKE, RATTLE, ROLL RULE!!!**
- Remain in your seat at all times unless given permission by the teacher to move. The teacher dismisses the class, **NOT** the bell. Do not begin to pack up before the bell rings. This causes a disruption, which will lead to staying longer.
- When the bell rings and you are dismissed by the instructor, you must clean up the room before leaving: all trash picked up and placed in the garbage, desks properly aligned, and returned all borrowed objects.
- A student caught cheating (copying homework, classwork, quizzes, tests, papers, projects, and etcetera) will receive immediate disciplinary action.
- Please raise your hand and wait to be recognized by the instructor. Do not shout answers at me or shout my name at me. Raise your hand and wait for me to call on you.
- Do not shout across the room at other students in the classroom. This is disruptive behavior.
- The teacher is the first person to leave the room.

Uniform Policy

- Students will not be admitted into class unless they are in the proper uniform required of Reid Ross Classical School.
- A clear/mesh backpack is the only acceptable item in the room.
- Failure to come to class dressed properly will result in a write-up of insubordination. You will also pay a Tedder tax.

Consequences

6 Rules of Reid Ross Classical School

1. Disrespect

Disrespect includes but is not limited to the following:

- Getting loud with an adult or student
- Arguing
- Talking back
- Disrupting class
- Noncompliance

First (1st) time...call home

Second (2nd) time...administrative referral

It is your job to show respect at all times and with everyone (young and seasoned).

2. Disruption

Disruptions include, but are not limited to the following:

- Yelling out
- Arguing with teacher
- Excessive talking
- Making noises during class
- Being loud
- Aggressive behavior toward other students

First (1st) time...call home

Second (2nd) time...call home **and lunch** detention

Third (3rd) time...call home **and** after school d-hall

Fourth (4th) time...call home to inform parent of referral to administration

It is your job to allow others and yourself, to get the best possible education we can provide.

3. Tardy

First (1st) time...conference with student

Second (2nd) time... call home **and** lunch detention

Third (3rd) time... call home **and** after school d-hall

Fourth (4th) time... call home to inform parent of referral to administration

4. Unprepared

You must come to class with all materials daily to include: textbook, planner, notebook, composition book, and journal.

First (1st) time...conference with student

Second (2nd) time... call home

Third (3rd) time... call home **and** lunch detention

Fourth (4th) time...call home **and** after school detention

Fifth (5th) time...call home to inform parent of referral to administration

It is your job to come to class prepared daily

5. Homework

You must come to class with all homework completed, when assigned.

First (1st) time...conference with student

Second (2nd) time... call home

Third (3rd) time... call home **and** lunch detention

Fourth (4th) time...call home **and** after school detention

Fifth (5th) time...call home to inform parent of referral to administration

It is your job to come to class prepared daily. It is your job to get work that was assigned while absent.

6. Uniform

You must come to class dressed in the appropriate school uniform daily.

First (1st) time...conference with student

Second (2nd) time... call home

Third (3rd) time... call home **and** lunch detention

Fourth (4th) time...call home **and** after school detention

Fifth (5th) time...call home to inform parent of referral to administration

It is your job to follow uniform dress code.

The following disruptive behaviors will result in immediate action and possible dismissal from the classroom:

- Open defiance
- Arguing with other classmates/the teacher (this includes non-verbal arguing as well)
- Disrespect/Verbal abuse
- Ignoring the Instructor/classmates
- Challenging the Instructor
- Yelling at the Instructor/classmates
- Fighting
- Cheating
- Drugs/Alcohol
- Weapons
- Cell phones, iPods, headphones, and other electronic devices in the classroom
- Cursing (includes curse words and slandering other groups of people in and out of the classroom)
- Refusing to do work

***Please sign and return to Mrs. Tedder

Student: I have read the classroom guidelines, understand them, and I will honor them while in this class.

Print Student name

Class/Period

Student Signature

Date

Parent: My child and I have discussed the classroom guidelines. I understand it and will support it.

Print Parent name

Parent Signature

Date

Parent E-mail (Please make legible)

Home Phone_____

Work Phone_____

Cell Phone_____

Emergency contact_____

The best time to contact you is_____

***Please call the instructor if any of this information changes throughout the semester. I always like to stay in contact with my parents.