

# English I Syllabus

2023-2024

## Instructor Information

### Instructor

Mr. Strom

### Email

[NStrom@west-fargo.k12.nd.us](mailto:NStrom@west-fargo.k12.nd.us)

### Office & Classroom Locations

Classroom: 122G/123G

Office: 205H

## General Information

### Course Description

English I is designed to help improve a student's ability to think critically about a wide variety of literature, including poetry, short stories, drama, and prose. It aims to strengthen a student's ability to use written language and reinforces their facility to prepare and deliver oral presentations. This course will also teach students digital literacy through a digital classroom setting - all work will be completed and submitted online through Google.

### Expectations and Goals

1. RESPECT, RESPECT, RESPECT!
2. Be prepared: Bring homework, writing utensils, notebooks, textbooks, etc. every day.
3. Act responsibly. Use the bathroom between classes, do not work on other school work unless you have permission - Use the time given to you in class wisely.
4. Accept the opinions of others - Be open to new ideas and constructive criticism.
5. Help to create a positive and comfortable atmosphere - Show respect to everyone.
6. Share your thoughts and opinions.
7. Challenge yourself!
8. If you need additional help, please visit with me as soon as possible. If there are technology issues, please communicate these issues as soon as they arise.

### Special Needs

Any students with disabilities or other special needs, who need accommodations in this course are invited to share these concerns or requests with me.

## Grading

A - 90%-100%  
(Advanced)

B - 80%-89%  
(Proficient)

C - 70%-79%  
(Emerging)

D - 60%-69%  
(Developing)

F - 50%-59%  
(Incomplete)

## Homework Policy

### Make-Up and Late Work

All make-up work is to be done within the standard allotted time (one day plus days missed). Work missed for a school activity or family trip must be made up in advance.

All late work will be accepted for full credit until the end of each quarter-- All of us have experiences and moments in our lives that may detract from our ability to meet a deadline. My preference is that students communicate when they need an extension for any assessment prior to the deadline.

## Cheating and Plagiarism

With regard to cheating, school policy will be enforced. Remember that cheating is as much a character issue as it is a policy issue. The English department recognizes a difference between intentional cheating and accidental plagiarism. Our common definition includes:

- Cheating is the intentional use of someone else's work being presented as one's own work (i.e. submitting another student's essay). Accidental plagiarism is the misrepresentation of another's work as one's own (i.e. forgetting a works cited page; not attributing a quotation to the author; not understanding the correct method of paraphrasing a quotation).
- AI work, such as Chat GPT, promotes institutionalized plagiarism. Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Rutgers Dr. Lauren M.E. Goodlad notes that "[AI is] trained on massive amounts of data, most of which data has been scraped from the internet without any compensation or consent or knowledge of the person who generated the data." As such, any work found to be produced by chatbots will be considered plagiarism. *This AI/ChatGPT policy is new territory and is evolving. It may change to align with English Department, WFHS, and/or WFPS policies. Any changes will be announced.*

## Food and Drink Policy

No food in hallways: This includes Period 1 and Period 2 breakfasts and lunches (purchased from school, brought from home, fast food, take-out from a restaurant, etc.). Food in classrooms must be provided by teacher(s); All drinks must be in a container with a non-spill lid; **Food or drinks NOT in a non-spill like will be directed to be thrown away.**

## Cell Phone and Device Policy

- Students shall not use any electronic device that in any way disrupts or detracts from the educational environment. Electronic devices are inclusive of cell phones, smart watches, earbuds, and school-issued devices.
- Cell phones must be out-of-sight and out-of-use from the first bell to the last bell of all classes, including during study halls and within flexed learning spaces that are an extension of a classroom.
- Photographing or recording of another person should be used for educational purposes as defined by the teacher. Any use of an electronic device for other than educational purposes will result in a consequence.

## WFHS Attendance Policy

### West Fargo High School Procedure:

- 3 and 5 absences: Letter is mailed home to families.
- 7 absences: Administrator connects schedules a meeting with student
- 9-10 absences: The administrator connects with the family and the student to establish a plan outlining expectations. If expectations are not met, the student will be dropped from the course(s) at a predetermined number of days.

After 20 minutes since the start of class, an unexcused tardy becomes an unverified absence. Every fifth unexcused tardy will convert to an unexcused absence. This is per class period and will adhere to the attendance policy. All passes will be limited in the first and last 15 minutes of class (exceptions made for verifiable emergencies)

## WFHS CCR

### Compassion

- Learners will demonstrate their understanding of complexities of cultures and global issues and see viewpoints beyond their own in order to positively impact the world around them.

### Collaboration

- Learners will work together, resolving controversy and conflict through respectful negotiation.

### Responsibility

- Learners will be actively engaged in their learning and demonstrate responsibility, organization, and perseverance.

## STROM'S ENGLISH I SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

My hope is to be a continuously reflective practitioner - as such this scope and sequence is subject to change and adjust based on student and teacher needs.

### Semester 1

READING		WRITING	
WEEK 1-9	FREE CHOICE/INDEPENDENT READING	WRITING UNITS 1-4	<p>WEEKS 1-2: OPEN CHOICE</p> <p>WEEKS 3-4: SHORT MEMOIRS AND NARRATIVE SCENE WRITING</p> <p>WEEKS 5-7: CRAFT SEVERAL SCENES TO TELL A STORY</p> <p>WEEKS 8-10: MULTI-NARRATOR WRITING OR DIGITAL STORYTELLING</p>
WEEK 10-12	BOOK CLUB 1	WRITING UNIT 5	WEEKS 11-14: INFORM AND EXPLAIN WRITING
WEEK 13-16	CORE TEXT: ROMEO AND JULIET	WRITING UNIT 6	WEEKS 15-17: LITERARY ESSAY
WEEK 17-19	FREE CHOICE/INDEPENDENT READING	REVISE LITERARY ESSAYS, CHOOSE PORTFOLIO WORK	

## Semester 2

READING		WRITING	
WEEK 19-21	BOOK CLUB 2	WRITING UNIT 7	WEEKS 20-22 "WHERE I'M FROM" DIGITAL WRITING
WEEK 22-24	BOOK CLUB 3	WRITING UNIT 8	WEEKS 23-27: ARGUMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICE (DIGITAL?) CHANGE MAKER?
WEEK 25-27	FREE CHOICE/INDEPENDENT READING		
WEEK 28-32	CORE TEXT: NIGHT/MAUS	WRITING UNIT 9	WEEKS 28-29: LITERARY ESSAY
		WRITING UNIT 10	WEEKS 30-34: MULTIGENRE PROJECT
WEEK 33-36	FREE CHOICE/INDEPENDENT READING OR BOOK CLUB	END OF YEAR PORTFOLIO/SPEECH PRESENT	