

Honors English 2

Instructor: Mrs. Erlinger

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Welcome: I am Mrs. Erlinger, and I welcome you to Honors English 2 at Westerville Central High School. This is my eleventh year at Central, and I really love teaching here. I am looking forward to this year! I know we will all get to know each other as we work diligently throughout the year. As long as you work hard, care about your school work and are kind and respectful, we'll get along well.

I expect this course to be one that challenges you, yet helps you gain a new appreciation for reading and writing. I am excited about our class. It is my hope that each and every one of us will grow immensely this year in a variety of areas. I want you all to be successful, and I know that is what you want, as well. Therefore, if you are struggling with something, come see me! I will make myself available to help you as much as you need and find other support systems for you here at Central. ☺

Course Description: This course is academically rigorous, as students are being prepared for AP ELA. A variety of genres will be read to include fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. This course is arranged thematically rather than chronologically, with a focus on American literature. Students will develop effective research and documentation skills and will complete oral presentations for a variety of purposes. We will read, write, and analyze widely with a heavy emphasis on writing. Active participation is required, which includes listening and offering personal interpretations.

General Course Procedure: Please be aware that there will always be a daily agenda on the side board in the classroom. The first action you take when you enter the room is to look at this agenda and be prepared for each item on the agenda. When the bell rings to start the period you should be **in your assigned seat** (otherwise you will be marked "tardy") and have all materials ready for the day. This is always the expectation!

Materials Needed:

- Folder or binder designated for Honors English 2. (Do not throw away any papers!) I suggest getting dividers as well, but this is not required.
- Novels. This year we will read *Of Mice and Men*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, and *The Great Gatsby*. The school does have copies of these books that you may borrow. However, some students prefer to get their own copies so annotations can be made in the book rather than on Post-Its. If you prefer to get your own copies, it is best to get them now, so that when we begin the book you are ready to go.
- Notebook and loose leaf paper.
- Writing utensil(s).
- Highlighter, Post-It notes, flash drive and/or a personal email address are highly recommended.

Supply Center: On the counter next to the classroom door is a Supply Center that students are free to use. There are a plethora of supplies there for your use – pencil sharpener, yard stick, scrap paper, makers, crayons/colored pencils, glue/tape /scissors/rulers, dictionaries/thesauruses, three-hole punch, pens/pencils, stapler, first aid items, lotion, old notebooks, paper, index cards and miscellaneous arts and crafts items. This is a substantial list of items. These items are for student use. **Similar items on Mrs. Erlinger's desk are NOT for student use. Use items in the Supply Center; DO NOT USE items on Mrs. Erlinger's desk.**

Students may borrow or use these Supply Center items during class time. Please return items to the same place and in the same condition as found.

Grading/Types of Assignments: Your English grade is based on a variety of work. Every assignment will count, so please put effort into all the work you do, whether it be inside the class or outside.

Students are expected to use class time wisely so that you can complete work to your fullest capability. This will allow you to perform satisfactorily and will mean that I don't need to call home with bad news.

When homework is assigned it is imperative that you complete the assignment. It is impossible for the class to move on and for you to be successful if we are not all on the same page.

Unannounced short pop quizzes are fair game. More substantial quizzes and tests will be announced prior to the time. To help you be successful in these scenarios, notes NEED to be taken during class. Sometimes guided notes will be provided, but other times you will simply have to take notes from a presentation or lecture. Exams/tests may be a combination or singularly a test, project, presentation, and/or timed-writing.

Throughout the year there will be a variety of group and independent projects.

Grades are posted on PowerSchool. Be sure to check your grades regularly so you know where you stand. I use the school's standard grading system for this class. However, below is the general grading scale for our class so that you are prepared for how I assess your work:

"A" work = Above and beyond, exceeds basic requirements

"B" work = Above average, meets all of the basic requirements, going above in some

"C" work = Average, mediocre, may be missing some requirements

"D" work = Below average, missing some requirements

"F" work = Not yet/not addressed/plagiarized

Your grade in American Lit. is weighted, and the weights are as follows:

Formal Assessment – 50%

This may include, but is not limited to, formal writing assignments, tests and quizzes.

Informal Assessment – 20%

This may include, but is not limited to, homework, in-class work and informal writing, like journals.

Projects – 30%

This may include, but is not limited to, individual projects and group projects.

Revision: I encourage revision. Students who don't like the grade earned on a formal writing assignment may revise it, and I will drop the lowest score. **However, if a student is interested in revising, he or she should be willing to spend significant time doing so.** Here are the conditions: Students may revise their work throughout the nine weeks provided that the first graded version was turned in on or before the original due date. Late work is not revisable. The first graded version must be included with any revision. **If you wish to revise, please let me know so we can set up a time to discuss.**

Late Work: Minor work, like small homework or in-class assignments, is NOT permitted to be turned in late. However, major assignments, like essays may be turned in late.

Once I have collected the work, anything collected thereafter is considered late. In addition, late work can be submitted until the assignment has been returned to the class. If work is turned in late it is subjected to a 10% penalty for each day that it is late. For example, if an essay is due on Monday and you turn it in on Wednesday, you will receive a 20% penalty. Late work should be marked "late" on your paper, including the number of days that it is late, and placed in the turn-in tray. It would also be wise to communicate to me that you have submitted late work.

NOTE: If an assignment requires you to print materials to be turned in on the due date (i.e. an essay), you MUST have those items printed prior to arriving in the classroom on the day the assignment is due. Make arrangements and plan ahead so that you are prepared for class when you arrive.

Late Work Passes: At the beginning of each grading quarter, each student will be issued **one** late work pass for use during Honors English 2 throughout that respective grading quarter. These passes can be used for homework that you know about for a day or two - generally, informal assessments. **Regardless of the reason, if you turn in work after Mrs. Erlinger has called for it, you must have a pass.** Once this pass is gone, that is it. Use it wisely! At the end of the quarter, an unused pass can be submitted for 1 extra credit point.

General Late Work Note: You should not allow an assignment's entry in PowerSchool to be your reminder that work was turned in. A minor assignment may or may not be entered in PowerSchool within the time frame permitted on the Late Work Pass. Regardless, minor assignments not turned in on time need to be turned in within five days of the due date. Stay on top of what is happening or has happened in class so that you do not lose unnecessary points.

Teacher Website: I have a website that I update every day. This is a great way to know what is happening in class if you are absent or to refresh your memory about previous days. Also, I post all handouts on the webpage, so this is how you can get a new copy of materials you've misplaced.

To access this website, go to Central's homepage, then scroll to the bottom area (dark grey background). On the left, under "School Links," click on "Staff Websites." Staff websites are alphabetized, so find Mrs. Erlinger's in the Es under "Erlinger, Cari" and click on her name. Classes are listed on the left under "Classes." Click "Honors English 2" to can find various pieces of information. "Daily Agendas" lists each day's events with links for corresponding handouts. "Homework" lists assignments, including due dates.

Absences: If you are absent, visit the teacher website to get an overview of what happened in class during your absence and to retrieve materials missed. That means you will need to access the internet before returning to school or Honors English 2 class.

REMEMBER: YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR COLLECTING YOUR MISSED WORK AND TURNING IT IN!!! I WILL NOT COME TO YOU AND GIVE YOU REMINDERS – IT IS ON YOUR SHOULDERS.

If you anticipate being absent during a time an assignment is due, you are responsible for making arrangements ahead of time to submit your work, not afterwards!

For any **excused** absence, you can make up work for full credit, if turned in on time. However, you only get the amount of time missed to make up that work for full credit. For instance, if you miss Monday, on Tuesday you get your assignment, which everyone else is turning in, you have until Wednesday to get it to Mrs. Erlinger.

Per district policy, out-of-school-suspension starts your grade at a 75%.

Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty, which includes but is not limited to plagiarism and copying another's answers, journals, etc., is a serious offense and will not be tolerated. Work suspected of academic dishonesty will be copied and referred to building administration. It is at the teacher's discretion if work may be resubmitted for credit.

Hall Passes: At the beginning of each grading quarter, each student will be issued **two** hall passes for use during Honors English 2 throughout that respective grading quarter. These passes can be used for anything from using the restroom to retrieving materials from your locker or another classroom. **Regardless of the reason, if you need to leave the room, you must have a pass.** Once these two passes are gone, that is it. Use them wisely! At the end of the quarter, each unused pass can be submitted for 1 extra credit point. (Both passes = 2 points; one pass = 1 points; no pass = 0 points.)

Library Information and Pass Policy: In an effort to keep everyone filled in (and to help Ms. Farris!), it is good to know our school's library policies.

Students can get passes to the library to work during their study hall. If a student has a library pass, he or she reports DIRECTLY to the library before the bell, not to study hall. If students do not have a library pass prior to the beginning of the

period, they will have to wait until another time to work in the library, as Ms. Farris cannot monitor and accept passes from those who did not plan ahead. Note that the library may be closed to lunch students and that it is not open before or after school.

Remember, the library pass must be from the teacher for whom you will complete work. Here's an easy way to remember it: If you are in the library during your study hall, your study hall teacher has nothing to do with it. You won't see her/him the entire period. Study hall teachers will not write passes for you to go to the library.

You are fully expected, by Ms. Farris and the teacher from whom you have received the pass, to work on said assignment throughout the period. Bring plenty to do so that if you finish early, you have other work you can do, or read a book or magazine until the bell rings. You will leave the library at the end of the period. You will not go back to study hall during the period. The library IS your study hall that day.

If you need a pass for Honors English 2, there are passes on the back board in Mrs. Erlinger's classroom. You must fill in the library pass completely and accurately. Once it has been completely filled out, bring it to Mrs. Erlinger to sign.

What does a complete and accurate library pass look like?

1. You have marked "Library" as the place you will go and filled in the basic information at the top of the pass (name, date, period).
2. You have written exactly what you should accomplish in the library. Do not write "homework." Write "Typing journal response." Do not write "project." Write "American Dream Project on Tupac." In the first scenario, you should only be on a computer working in a word processing mode. If you are elsewhere, Ms. Farris will be suspicious. In the second scenario, you might be looking for photos of Tupac, so Ms. Farris will not be suspicious when she sees that you are visiting Tupac websites.
3. You have written any **special instructions or resources** required. If you need to see Ms. Farris for some help, write it down. If you need to use a computer, write it down.
4. You have taken the pass to the teacher for a signature.

If a pass is incomplete and/or inaccurate, Mrs. Erlinger will not sign the pass and simply hand it back to you.

REMEMBER, BOTH MS. FARRIS AND MRS. ERLINGER EXPECT YOU TO WORK DILIGENTLY THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD. DO NOT DISAPPOINT US!

Tentative Syllabus

<p>Introduction to Honors English 2 General introductory material Summer reading</p>	<p>Romanticism and Individualism Examine Romantic poetry Dark Romanticism – Poe and Hawthorne Transcendentalism – Thoreau and Emerson</p>
<p>Examining the American Dream <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> by Lorraine Hansberry Character analysis Harlem Renaissance Steinbeck "American Dreamers" The American Dream Essay (Critiqued or Celebrated?) Choice readings</p>	<p>The American Classics <i>The Great Gatsby</i> by F. Scott Fitzgerald Analyzing author's purpose Student-lead seminars</p>
<p>Studying Literature Themes, character development, setting, etc. <i>Of Mice and Men</i> by John Steinbeck Begin developing research skills</p>	<p>Argumentative Essay</p>

Classroom Rules

These rules may be altered at any time, as needed.

1. **RESPECT** yourself, classmates, teacher(s), guests to the class, and school property. In general, be mature and act responsibly.
2. **BE ON TIME!** When you are late it impacts the entire class, the teacher and you.
3. **BEHAVE APPROPRIATELY DURING CLASS.**

Always come prepared. Do your homework! Bring supplies listed in the syllabus every day!
Always be active in your learning process! Listening and participating will provide you myriad benefits. Besides, Mrs. Erlinger loves hard workers. 😊

Do not put your head down on the desk!

Always use professional, appropriate language. We are in a professional, academic environment, and inappropriate language (cursing or hate language) is not acceptable. Mrs. Erlinger does not use inappropriate language, and she expects you to do the same.

Do not socialize or make any inappropriate sounds when the teacher or another student is talking.

Do not interrupt a class discussion or teaching session to ask to go to the bathroom – wait until there is a quiet moment.

Do not interrupt a class discussion or teaching session with inappropriate movement.

Do not disrupt another student’s learning. In general, do not “bug” others.

No electronic devices. If Mrs. Erlinger sees a phone or any type of music player she will take it from you, no questions asked. No texting, no charging, no nothing. Mrs. Erlinger does not have her cell phone or iPod, so you shouldn’t have yours.

No throwing anything during class – PERIOD!!! That means pens, pencils, trash, books, and anything else I forgot.

Do not pack up early or line up at the door (even if we finish a few minutes early!). As academically minded young adults, you want to take advantage of your education and remain focused from bell to bell.

****Any disruptive behavior missed in this list, will be addressed appropriately*** - THEREFORE the rule is that ANY and ALL disruptive behavior is unacceptable!
4. **LEAVE THE CLASSROOM IN THE SAME CONDITION AS WHEN YOU ARRIVED.**

Our classroom needs to be left in good condition. That means...

 - Pick up after yourself – get all materials and any trash you created! If we have used textbooks, make sure they are placed neatly in the appropriate area for your class.
 - Push in your chair – it is just polite, considerate, and respectful to do so.
 - No where in Mrs. Erlinger’s job description does it say that she needs to pick up after self-absorbed, thoughtless teenagers. Leave the room as you found it!
5. **NO CELL PHONES ALLOWED.** Leave your phone in your locker or in your backpack TURNED OFF. If the teacher sees a phone, the teacher takes it. Consider this your warning.
 - FYI: Strike 1 = Phone remains with teacher until the end of class period; Strike 2 = Phone remains with Mrs. Erlinger until the end of the school day; Strike 3 = Phone is turned in to the main office.

If you break a rule and you earn consequences, please accept them with grace and maturity. If you disagree with Mrs. Erlinger, please find the appropriate time and tone to discuss the matter, which is generally not in the heat of the moment.

NOTE TO PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S)

Please review the course syllabus for Mrs. Erlinger's Journalism 1 class. (Your student is responsible for reading this information and taking a syllabus quiz, which will also serve as a basis for discussion.) Then, with your student, complete the bottom portion of this sheet. Your student should return the **bottom portion only** BY MONDAY, AUG. 21 so he/she can receive 5 points for the assignment. If your student filled in the information, please double check that it is accurate and complete. **Keep this top portion for your own reference.**

I use PowerSchool to keep track of grades. This is a good way to monitor your student's performance, and I highly recommend utilizing this tool! If you do not know how to access PowerSchool contact either the guidance office or myself as soon as possible.

I am looking forward to an exciting semester of working with you and your child to ensure success throughout high school and beyond! Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have questions, comments or concerns. The easiest way to contact me is e-mail (erlingec@wsoh.org), as I try to answer e-mail several times a day. However, I can also be reached through voicemail at 797-6800 #8335. Thank you in advance for your support!

Cari Erlinger

Student name **(print please)** _____

Parent/guardian name **(print please)** _____

Please sign after you have reviewed the attached course syllabus and rules for Mrs. Erlinger's class. This portion (bottom) of the sheet needs to be returned to school with your child BY MONDAY, AUG. 21! **Keep the top portion for your own reference.**

Student signature _____

Parent/guardian signature _____

Check one of the following. The best way to reach parent is via: _____ phone.
_____ e-mail.

Please note that by indicating e-mail as a viable method of contact, you are agreeing that it is acceptable for Mrs. Erlinger to contact you through e-mail regarding your student.

Provide **preferred** contact information below.

Parent/Guardian Phone Number _____

Parent/Guardian E-mail Address _____