**English II Syllabus**

**Parkwood High School**

**Ms. Altovese Simmons Room 713**

**Tutoring Hours:**

**Monday’s 3:15-3:45 & by appointment**

**English II Curriculum Overview:**

English II is a multidimensional course designed to introduce students to major works and authors in World Literature. This course reinforces textual analysis and promotes a healthy blend of literature, written composition, language/grammar, and research skills. More specifically, the study of literature will include reading and comprehending literary forms such as short stories, nonfiction, poetry, drama, novels, spoken and visual texts. The class also focuses on the writing process through response to literature, informational texts, creative writing, and connections to real-world contexts and problem-solving. Language study will target usage, mechanics, and strategies for vocabulary development. Students will work independently as well as through collaborative efforts and have various ways to explore and showcase their learning. Ultimately, this is a North Carolina DPI standards aligned course that will prepare students for the NC English II EOC, the rigors of English III/IV, ACT/SAT and beyond. Students enrolled in the honor’s course will survey more increasingly complex texts through sophisticated analysis and execute a broader range of writing, research, synthesis and presentation.

**Course’s Main Text, LMS, & Novel Highlights**

**Holt McDougal Literature (10) Common Core 1st Edition**

**Canvas is the required management system for the class.**

**Novel Options**

*The B*readwinner by Kamaya Markandaya

*Night* by Elie Wiesel

*House of Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros

Things Fall Apart Chinua Achebe

**Required Classroom Supplies**

School Issued Chromebook& Charger, Binder& College Ruled Paper/Dividers and/or 1 Subject Notebook, #2 Pencils and Black/Blue Ink Pens, 1 Pack of 3x5 & 4x6 Notecards

**Classroom Wish List**

Kleenex, Colored Paper, Crayola Markers, Expo Dry Erase Markers (all colors)

**Daily Expectations**

Students are expected to arrive to class on time prepared to begin class promptly with all required materials. Students are expected be alert and actively engaged at all times, doing their very best every day.

Students are expected to be respectful of the learning environment at all times by remaining on task, completing all assigned work, using appropriate voice levels and actively participating in order to maximize learning potential and academic success.

**Electronics Policy**

Electronics such as cell phones& gaming devices along with their accessories such as headphones should be powered off and put away unless directed otherwise by the teacher for educational purposes; all emergency calls should be taken through the main office.

**Restroom Policy**

Students are expected to use the restroom before and/or after class. Unless otherwise documented by a physician and/or our school nurse, students will generally refrain from leaving class to use the restroom. However, I am aware that sometimes nature calls when least expected; therefore, every student will receive **4 passes for the semester with opportunities to earn more throughout the course**. Students will submit any passes used before they leave the classroom. Students who have unused passes remaining at the end of the semester may submit them for added points on specified assignments and/or other incentives. Points will be documented and added at the end of grading term (not before). In the event there is an abuse of this privilege, students may not be permitted to leave during class time and may have their remaining passes revoked.

**Grading/10 Point Scale**

90-100 A

80-89 B

70-79 C

60-69 D

0-59 F

**Grading Overview**

**Daily In Class Assignments 40%**

**Homework, Projects & Extended Activities 35%**

**Assessments (Tests & Quizzes) 25%**

**Honor Code**

**Students enrolled in this course are expected to uphold the highest level of academic integrity and be supportive of a positive classroom environment. Students should exercise ethical behavior and take all precautions to avoid any type of academic violation. Some examples of academic violations include plagiarism, copying someone else’s work, submitting someone else’s work (partially or entirely) as your own, distributing answers to an assignment before another is able to complete it, etc.**

**Late Work**

All work should be submitted on its designated due date. When absent, students are expected to follow up **no later than the first day back (in order to avoid the possible 10 point deduction for each day late). Should assignments not be submitted in a timely fashion, students will be assigned to Academic Development during their lunch period. Academic Development is a school-wide support in place to help students achieve success in all of their classes.**

Students should be sure to check Canvas& “The While You Were Out” Folder for assignment information. Students are also strongly encouraged to identify someone in class, a Success Buddy, who can also be another point of contact should they be absent or need support. Of course, students may always contact me. I am here to help. My email is [altovese.simmons@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:altovese.simmons@ucps.k12.nc.us). Please note that emails sent after 6pm or on the weekends may not be considered until the next school day. If a major assignment is due on the day of an absence, students are expected to either submit their work through Canvas and/or teacher email no later than the end of their class period unless told otherwise. Please remember to check your sent folder and follow up to ensure the assignment was received. I will send a confirmation email once I receive your work. If I don’t respond, it is safe to say I did not receive it and will mark your assignment “late”.

**Staying Afterschool for Help**

Students who are consistently completing assignments, actively engaging in class as well as utilizing tutoring/remediation opportunities typically have higher grades and achieve greater academic success. I am available after school to support you on Monday’s from 3:15-3:45 and during approved lunch appointments. All students have to do is request an appointment, and unless I am sick or have an obligation that can’t be changed, I will be available.

**Homework Load**

Although a large majority of the coursework will be completed in class, please be aware that homework will be assigned as I find it necessary. More specifically, students can expect homework at least a few nights a week. I am aware that students have additional coursework and extra- curricular/work schedules to manage; therefore, I am considerate of such and try to assign outside assignments with that in mind. I will keep parents informed of major projects and due dates which will help with planning and managing deadlines. Please note your mail/contact information on the next page as most communication will be via email.

**Parents,**

Although you and your child will receive progress reports throughout the semester, I strongly encourage checking PowerSchool at least once a week to remain current on your child’s class progress. Students who are consistently completing assignments, actively engaging in class as well as utilizing remediation opportunities typically have higher grades and achieve greater academic success. If you determine that your child needs additional help, remember that I am available by appointment after school on Monday’s 3:15-3:45 or later if needed. Please do not hesitate to contact me at [altovese.simmons@ucps.k12.nc.us](mailto:altovese.simmons@ucps.k12.nc.us) should you ever have questions regarding the course or your child’s performance.

I can assure you that your child is in great hands, and I look forward to many wonderful classes ahead! Please sign (in black/blue ink) below to acknowledge that you have reviewed and discussed the syllabus with your child. Thank you so much for your support!

**Student’s Name ---------------------------------------------------------------------**

**Student’s Signature ----------------------------------------------------------------**

**Student Email -----------------------------------------------------------------------**

**Date ----------------**

**Parent’s Name ----------------------------------------------------------------------**

**Parent’s Signature ------------------------------------------------------------------**

**Parent Email -------------------------------------------------------------------------**

**Parent’s Phone Number ------------------------------------------------------------**

**Date ----------------------**