



**Honors English 11**  
**Dr. J. Spiegel**  
**Room 110**

Welcome to Honors English 11! Below are a few suggestions to help you make the most of this course.

In this course, we will study many pieces of American Literature arranged in thematic units. While studying each piece, we will also consider the historical time period in which it was written and the literary style of the writer. The works listed below are some of the works we may read throughout the course, the order of which will be determined by the school calendar, the windows of standardized testing, and other factors. All works listed below are located in our primary text, *The Elements of Literature*, unless marked with an asterisk. In addition to the readings, each unit also has one element of other media, including films, poems, cartoons, advertisements, music, and many other forms.

**Unit 1: The American Journey** (summer novels)

- *Huckleberry Finn* - Twain\*
- *The Secret Life of Bees* - Kidd\*
- *Of Plymouth Plantation* – Bradford

**Unit 2: American Persuasion and Propaganda**

- *Speech to the Virginia Convention* - Henry
- *Inherit the Wind* - Lawrence
- Barack Obama's Presidential Address\*
- John F. Kennedy's Presidential Address\*
- *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God* – Edwards
- *Letter from Birmingham Jail* - Martin Luther King Jr.\*
- *Marketing Ate Our Culture* – O'Reilly

**Unit 3: American Morality**

- *The Scarlet Letter* – Hawthorne\*
- *The Crucible* – Miller\*
- *The Perils of Obedience* – Milgram\*
- *The Pursuit of Unhappiness* – McMahan\*

**Unit 5: The Great American Novel**

- Novel / play by chosen author from list\*
- Additional novel, play, or short story (at least one) written by said author
- Critical essays from library research chosen by student

**Unit 6: The American Dream**

- *The Great Gatsby* – Fitzgerald\*
- *Of Mice and Men* – Steinbeck\*
- *Famine, Affluence, and Morality* – Singer\*
- *Lifeboat Ethics* – Hardin\*

**Unit 7: America in Darkness**

- *The Raven* – Poe
- Excerpt from *Moby Dick* – Melville
- *The Pit and the Pendulum* – Poe
- *The Fall of the House of Usher* – Poe
- *The Devil and Tom Walker* - Irving

**Unit 8: American Identity**

- *The Awakening* – excerpt – Chopin\*
- *A Pair of Silk Stockings* – Chopin
- *A Wagner Matinee* – Cather
- *Speech at Mt. Holyoke College* – Quindlen\*

**Unit 9: The American Melting Pot**

- *The Interesting Life of Olaudah Equiano* - Equiano
- *Rules of the Game* – Tan
- *The Way to Rainy Mountain* – Momaday
- *The Magic Barrel* – Malamud

Materials Needed Daily for Class

- Three-ring binder (containing materials for this class only)
- Pencil or pen (pen preferred)
- Textbook and/or assigned novels
- iPad

Course Binder

You must keep all notes, handouts, and homework in your binder for each nine weeks. At the end of each nine weeks period you may remove some materials from your binder if needed, but put them in a safe place, as they will be needed for the mid-term and final exam later in the course. The mid-term and final exams are cumulative – replicating what you will experience in the college environment.

### Tests and Quizzes

Tests and quizzes may be given online via Canvas. When they are given in this format, **YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO TAKE THEM ON ANY ELECTRONIC DEVICE OTHER THAN YOUR SCHOOL ISSUED IPAD**. Any student who does not have a charged, district-issued iPad in class during the test will take the make-up form on paper. Phones or other personal devices will not be permitted. Students are not permitted to share the quiz password with any students in other classes or at home. This will be considered a violation of academic integrity. Any student absent the day of the quiz or test will also take the paper make-up. This test will be an equivalent to the original test given in class, but may not be in the same format or have the same questions.

### Participation

This is an honors level course where your participation is expected daily. You should be prepared to present information individually, as part of a group, or in Socratic Seminar discussions. Working on other homework, texting or otherwise using PDs, or anything else that does not indicate your continued engagement in the classwork at hand while class is being conducted is **NOT** acceptable. It is expected that you will take appropriate notes each day to use to study for exams.

### Attendance Excused tardy / absence

Work made up in amount of days missed  
Get work in advance when possible  
This includes days missed for school activities

### Unexcused tardy / absence / class cut

No credit for work completed on that day  
Class cuts also receive disciplinary action

### Late to Class

Three unexcused = detention after school with me

### Tardy To School / Early Dismissal / Field Trip

If you come to school late, leave early, or attend a field trip, you are in the school building and are expected to deliver any homework due that day to me that day. You may do this by delivering the assignment directly to me or having the main office secretaries place it securely in my mailbox. You may also leave it in the Honors English basket in my classroom or to Canvas online. Feel free to ask for assignments in advance, as I am usually prepared weeks or months ahead.

### Classroom Behavior

This is an honors level course that requires rigorous amounts of reading and writing both in and out of class, and will also require speaking both formally and informally in class. Since literature is interpretive, many of you will develop opinions about the authors and works we study. Some of your opinions will be different than your classmates and that is ok. Please respect the opinions of all parties in the classroom and do not speak out of turn or interrupt others as they discuss their points of view. Everyone will be afforded the opportunity to speak in turn.

In addition, please respect the following BRAVE standards of behavior:

- Be safe: Listen to staff and maintain personal space.
- Respect others: Be on time, be polite, and use appropriate language and tone.
- Be accountable: Be prepared, be honest, do your own work, use electronic devices only when permitted.
- Be victorious: Do your best work and celebrate academic success.
- Be enthusiastic: Have a positive attitude and take ownership of learning.

### Grading

All grading will be done according to the district's grading scale. Each assignment will have an assigned point value. Keep track of your own points and check your grades frequently online. See the guidance office if you do not have a password.

### Homework / Assignment Standards

All work must be completed on time. Late work will be accepted for two days after the due date at a cost of 50% of the points. This includes work late for the following reasons: printer out of ink, work forgotten at home or elsewhere, work not completed due to after school job, activity, or other extracurricular responsibility. All work should be neatly written or typed (if required). Use blue or black ink. All work should be completed on 8 1/2 by 11 sheets of lined paper. MLA Style must be used. 10 % will be deducted from work not meeting these standards and from any assignment that does not have the provided grading rubric.

### Academic Integrity - Plagiarism and Cheating

It is **absolutely unacceptable** to copy material from another student or from another source (i.e.: internet sites). You are not permitted to "work together" on assignments unless I have given you specific permission to do so. If you are found plagiarizing work or cheating in any way, you and any other student (s) involved will receive a zero on the assignment, project, or test. Texting or using other electronic devices during tests or quizzes will also result in a zero. This includes sending quiz codes to your peers at home or in other classes. You will **NOT** have the opportunity to make up the work or do the assignment again. This includes all assignments and compositions - no exceptions. This is pursuant to the district policy. Please see the current edition of Student Handbook for more information. In addition, please keep the following in mind:

- Accurately cite all sources
- Proofread your work to assure accuracy
- Accurately represent your sources
- Include a list of works cited for all compositions
- Read all assigned readings to assure accuracy
- Do not download a composition from the internet
- Do not copy another person's work
- Do not make up quotes that are not in the text you have read
- Do not give your work to others
- Do not write a paper for one course and turn the same paper in for another course

### Cell Phone / Electronics Policy

PEDs “are permitted to be used . . . AT TEACHER DISCRETION FOR INSTRUCTIONAL PURPOSES IN THE CLASSROOMS.”

This is the district policy regarding cell phones and electronic devices. In order to assure that this is followed, please take out your phone at the start of class and TURN IT OFF. If you are using a cell phone during class without permission, I will confiscate it and provide you with a detention. Please observe this policy. It is inappropriate to use a cell phone when you are expected to be doing academic work. **It is unprofessional and down right rude to use a cell phone while the teacher or another classmate is talking.** Courtesy is required in this classroom. If you are distracted by a device you are not academically present in the class. Most of all, you are missing valuable information, interaction, and instruction that cannot be repeated. You may use your iPads when it is appropriate to do so. I will give you a verbal “ok” to use them. If I have asked for them to be removed and put away, please do so.

#### Success In This Course

According to district policy, you must receive a cumulative percentage of 60 in order to pass this course. Effort goes a long way in this course. Attending school regularly, keeping up with all notes, readings, and assignments, and asking for help when needed will ensure your success.

#### Communication with Teacher

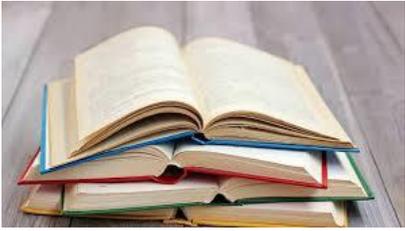
##### Voice Mail

Dial (412) 896-2300  
Press 1 for touch-tone service  
Press 1 again to leave a message  
Enter my mailbox number - 7810  
The system will play my name and greeting  
Record your message  
Hang up when finished

##### Email

Address: [jspiegel@efsd.net](mailto:jspiegel@efsd.net)

Students should keep the first three pages in the front of their binders for reference. The final sheet should be returned to the teacher at the beginning of the school year. Feel free to download copies of this from the school district website at [www.efsd.net](http://www.efsd.net) from the English Department page or from Canvas.



**Signature Page**  
**Please return to Dr. J. Spiegel – room 110**  
**Honors English 11**

Please take this home and review it with your parent or guardian. Have a parent or guardian sign on the line below to indicate that he or she has reviewed the Honors English 11 course syllabus information.

A signature below earns 5 out of 5 points for the student if returned by the due date.

X \_\_\_\_\_ student name (PRINT)

X \_\_\_\_\_ student signature

X \_\_\_\_\_ parent / guardian signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Information**

Should I ever need to contact you, please indicate below your preferred method of communication and provide the information needed.

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent to be contacted (print): \_\_\_\_\_