

Syllabus for IB English Year 1 2017-2018

Mr. Rutstein – nrutstein@pths209.org

Welcome to IB English Language and Literature! It is my great pleasure and privilege to be your teacher and help you develop your language skills and an understanding of language and literature in accordance with the International Baccalaureate method. I have planned an exciting curriculum for you and am confident that you will learn a lot and enjoy yourself in the process.

The following information is intended to help us maximize your learning.

Course Description

We will read and examine short stories, novels, plays, poetry, non-fiction, illustrations and photographs by authors and artists throughout the world and history to explore expression in all its various forms and the ways expressions are intended and understood in different cultural contexts. You will have continual opportunities to respond to our texts through discussion, writing and presentations. Through systematic analysis, we will develop more sophisticated and effective reading, writing, speaking, listening and thinking skills.

Objectives

The primary goals of this course are 1) to develop students' ability to understand subjective language more objectively and to use it to meet their purposes 2) to enjoy the play of language and literature both inside and outside the classroom as they engage the world community, 3) to prepare students for the successful completion of the requirements for an IB Diploma, 4) to prepare students for the SAT, and 5) to prepare students for the AP Language and Composition exam if they choose to take it.

Major Texts

English Language and Literature by Brad Philpot

Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw

1984 by George Orwell

Oedipus by Sophocles

Henry IV Part I by William Shakespeare

Selected poetry of Thomas Hardy

Silas Marner by George Eliot

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Selected poetry of Derek Walcott

Assignments

We will be performing close, analytical reading of the Major and supplementary texts. Students will also do individualized readings. We will be writing and revising in a variety of modes, including narrative, expository, persuasive and creative. We will also give speeches and presentations and do listening and note taking exercises. Students will have on average 40 minutes of homework every night and be responsible for presenting it the following day.

Supplies

Students will need a writing journal, a supply of loose leaf paper and pens. In addition, students with last names that begin with A through G need to bring one box of tissues. Students with last names that begin with H through N need to bring one bottle of hand-

sanitizer. Students with last names that begin with O through S need to bring one canister of sanitizing wipes. Students with last names that begin with T through Z need to bring one box of band-aids. Students will receive extra credit points for contributing these supplies, which they will be using throughout the year.

Class Rules

We will have several rules that will create a superior learning environment. Students will earn points for following these rules and will have points deducted and incur other disciplinary action for declining to follow them.

1. Students must come prepared to class. Being prepared means having completed the homework and having all the relevant materials.
2. Students must be on time and in uniform.
3. Students must treat others with respect and consideration.
4. Students must constructively contribute to discussions each day.
5. Students must deposit their cell phones in the crate before class begins.
6. Students may not eat during class or drink any beverage other than water. Students also may not sell or purchase food in the classroom.
7. Students must not plagiarize or cheat. Infractions will result in a zero.
8. Students must adhere to other rules that are found in the Student handbook and as are otherwise deemed necessary.

Assignment Category Weighting

Summative (unit tests, final projects, etc.)	40%
Formative (quizzes, essay drafts, etc.)	30%
Skills Practice (homework, projects, etc.)	20%
Participation (contributions, extra credit, etc.)	10%

Grading Scale

92-100	A
84-91	B
76-83	C
70-75	D
0-69	F

Monitoring Student Progress

Parents are encouraged to check PowerSchool at least once a week to keep track of how students are performing. If students need or desire extra help, I will provide it.

Communication

If you would like to reach me outside of class, please do not hesitate to contact me at nrutstein@pths209.org. I will keep parents updated as often as possible at the email addresses provided on the next page, which the students will return to me.

Signatures and Acknowledgements – IB English Year 1

This page certifies that you have read and agreed to all the conditions of the Syllabus on the previous page.

Student Name _____ Period _____

Student Number _____

Student Signature _____

Student Email _____

Parent/Guardian 1 Name _____

Signature _____

Preferred Phone Number _____

Parent Email _____

Parent/Guardian 2 Name _____

Signature _____

Preferred Phone Number _____

Parent Email _____

Please turn in this completed page by Friday, August 26, 2016 in order to receive 10 points toward your grade.

Thank you, and I look forward to a great year working with you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Rutstein

SyllabusIBYr117-18