

Obra D. Tompkins High School

Course Syllabus – English I

Teacher Information

Mrs. Taylor

Room: 2657

Website: www.taylorenglish1.weebly.com

Phone: 281-234-1198

E-mail: madalynkbaker@katyisd.org (*This will soon change to madalynktaylor@katyisd.org*)

Tutorials: 7:00-7:30 am Tuesdays and Thursdays and by appointment

OR 2:40-3:10 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays in room 2675

Conference: 3rd Period, 9:24-10:21 (9:16-10:03 on Enrichment Days)

School Attributes

The manner in which I will prepare students at Tompkins High School is informed by the Falcon Fundamentals:

(1) OTHS will create an environment of learning that empowers all students to soar to a high level of personal success; (2) OTHS graduates will be equipped to contribute globally through leadership and critical thinking; (3) OTHS will be a people-centered organization that focuses on a culture of mutual respect in which all members take responsibility for learning; (4) OTHS teachers will facilitate learning in a collaborative, innovative environment in which growth for all parties is encouraged; and (5) The OTHS educational community will value and promote honesty, integrity, perseverance, respect and responsibility.

Course Description

This course is designed to prepare students to be critical readers and skilled writers. It involves the study of writing techniques, reading comprehension and analysis strategies and English grammar, and more.

Course Competencies/ Learning Objectives

English I students will be able to identify and analyze the literary elements essential to powerful writing. In addition, they will demonstrate the ability to implement new vocabulary, employ varied writing techniques, and incorporate specific grammar components in their individual and academic writing. Students will be thoroughly familiarized with the steps and techniques of the writing process, with emphasis on providing textual support. Furthermore, English I students will become comfortable with research, evaluating and making inferences about literature, and making presentations. Finally, all SCS students will become familiar with the Habits of Mind and their implementation in daily life in order to move towards success.

Required Materials

2-3 inch 3-ring binder with dividers and notebook paper

1 folder with brads every six weeks

Pencils

Pens

Highlighters

Red/Colored pens

Notecards

Internet access from home (or access to the library)

Kleenex

Student Evaluation

The grading system for the English I Department at Tompkins High School is as follows:

Tests, Projects, & Major Papers	-	55%
Quiz grades	-	30%
Daily grades	-	15%

Attendance Policy

Regular and prompt class attendance is an essential part of the educational experience. Tompkins High School expects students and parents to exercise good judgment regarding attendance and absences. Students will accept full responsibility for ensuring their work does not suffer because of absences. All students are expected to attend every scheduled class on time. Exceptions may be made for illness and valid emergencies.

Classroom Expectations

1. Respect yourself, your teacher, your classmates and others' belongings
2. Come prepared: bring homework and materials everyday
3. Turn in your work on time
4. Participate in class discussion and activities
5. Ask for help
6. Be positive
- 7. No cell phones or other mobile devices permitted in the classroom**
8. You may have gum, snacks and drinks in closed containers

Class Requirements

It is YOUR responsibility to complete classwork and homework assignments. You cannot be given credit for assignments you do not complete. I will accept late work, however, you will lose 25 points per day. On the third day from the assigned due date, all late work must be turned in. For makeup work, I will follow the KISD policies.

If you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to make up the assignments and schedule a time to make up tests when you return. If you miss school for a school sponsored event, see me before your absence and I will give you your work. Your work will still be due on time. If you are unexpectedly absent, you will have two days to make up your work for each day missed.

It is YOUR responsibility to come after school to catch up on missed work from your absences. I will NOT re-teach the lesson during class time. I am available for tutorials on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00-7:30 am, and will be more than happy to schedule another time to meet with you.

Plagiarism, Cheating, and Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is the practice of copying words, sentences, images, or ideas for use in written or oral assessments without giving proper credit to the source. Cheating is defined as the giving or receiving of illegal help on

anything that has been determined by the teacher to be an individual effort. Both are considered serious offenses and will significantly affect your course grade. Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct booklet for additional information.

Class Website & Technology

Parents and students can stay up-to-date with class activities, reading, & assignments by viewing Mrs. Taylor's website: www.taylorenglish1.weebly.com .

You are also invited to participate in Remind. With Remind, I will send texts to your phone reminding you of upcoming due dates. You will not be able to reply to these messages, it is strictly a one-way communication. If you have a question about a reminder you receive through Remind you will need to e-mail me. I will provide you with a code to text to my Remind number, and you will be set.

For major papers (there will be at least one per six weeks), I will ask you to turn in a hard copy (which will be in a folder with all of your outlines and rough drafts) as well as an electronic copy using www.turnitin.com. This website will help me check for plagiarism more efficiently. I will provide you with the username and password to log onto [turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com), and we will practice in class. If you do not have access to a computer, you may use the school or public library. Please talk to me if any of this technology is a problem for you.

General Information

At the beginning of every new six weeks, I will provide you with a tentative schedule of class assignments, quizzes and tests. While this schedule is fluid and subject to change as needed, I am dedicated to only changing dates for tests and due dates for major assignments if absolutely necessary. If I do change a due date or test day, it will be in your best interest.

If you are having trouble with this class, come to me immediately and I can work with you. If you wait until the end of the six weeks, it will be TOO LATE. I will be available to help you understand so you can be successful in this class.

Student Self-Censorship

Reading is a joy, a privilege, and the right of every student.

In both my classroom and the library students will have opportunities to choose books they would like to read. As you select the books you will read, please understand that every book is not the best choice for every student. **If a book is unappealing or offensive to you in any way, please return it and select another.** You, the student know better than I, the teacher, what reading materials best serve you and your standards and beliefs.

