# English II - A

Western Dubuque High School

## Course/Instructor Information

Course Location: Room # 108

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| Instructor Name: | Mrs. Gretchen E. Kratochwill-Jones |
| School Email: | gretchen.kratochwill-jones@wdbqschools.org |

## Course Description and Outcomes

This course builds on concepts explored in English I. The course provides an in-depth study of literature, enabling students to gain independence in analyzing literature, recognizing literary elements, enlarging everyday vocabulary, and writing with purpose as they question literature and seek to uncover common threads between themselves and situations and characters in literature, thus helping them gain insight into their own lives. First semester will review concepts explored in English I through comparative studies of the novels *Of Mice and Men* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*, placing a great deal of importance on similarities concerning the historical context, as well as characterization and theme. This course also builds on students’ written analysis skills and comparison and contrast.

## Required Texts (Provided)

Lee, Harper. *To Kill a Mockingbird*. New York: Warner Books, Inc., 1982. Print.

*McDougal Littell Literature*. Ed. Janet Allen et al. Evanston, IL: McDougal Littell, 2008. Print.

Steinbeck, John. *Of Mice and Men*. New York: Penguin Books, 1993. Print.

## Course Grading Scale

93-100 A

90-92 A-

87-89 B+

83-86 B

80-82 B-

77-79 C+

73-76 C

70-72 C-

67-69 D+

63-66 D

60-62 D-

59 and below F

## Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism is the submission of an academic assignment as one’s own work, which includes critical ideas and/or written narrative that are taken from another author without the proper citation. **This does not only apply to direct quotes, but also to critical ideas** **that are paraphrased by the student.**

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

* Submitting the work of others as your own
* Submitting others’ work as your own with only minor changes
* Submitting others’ work as your own without adequate footnotes, quotations, and other reference forms
* Multiple submissions of the same work, written or oral, for more than one course without receiving permission from *both* instructors, or making minor revisions on a work that has already received credit and submitting it again as new work

**Students who blatantly plagiarize an assignment will receive an automatic F. It will also result in a meeting between the student, an administrator, a parent/guardian, and the instructor.**

## Weighted Grading Categories

Grades will be weighted in various categories. Note: In addition to the following percentages, major assignments may be multiplied by 2 or more. The final course examination, for example, is multiplied by 2; thus, it is worth 2 test scores in the weighted grading category for tests.

The following displays the weighted scale on which a student’s overall grade will be based:

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| --- | --- |
| Tests | **40%** |
| Quizzes/Presentations | **20%** |
| Formal Writing (2 major writings) | **35%** |
| Assignments/Mini Vocab Quizzes | **5%** |
| *NOTE: There are no retakes in this course.* | |

## Additional Course Requirements

ABSENCES AND MAKE-UP WORK – If you are absent, it will be 100% your responsibility to make up any missed

work. Please pick up and complete this work in a timely manner. Work that remains incomplete for an extended period

of time (this will depend on the length of your absence and the discretion of your instructor) will receive an automatic F.

This means assignments cannot be made up at the last minute as we conclude the trimester.

VOCABULARY – Over the course of the year, you will learn 90 vocabulary words (45 each trimester) from the book *101 Words Every High School Graduate Needs to Know*. You are to record new words in a notebook or on flashcards each week and study them throughout the trimester; we will also have mini quizzes several times throughout the trimester (usually on Fridays) to make sure you are studying. At the end of the trimester, you will be tested over the first 45 words, and, at the end of the English II - B, you will be tested over all 90 words.

PARTICIPATION – In addition to attending class, you are expected to participate. Participation does not only include

answering questions and contributing to discussion; it also includes respecting your classmates, your instructor, and

yourself. Causing a disruption or making insensitive comments will not be tolerated.

CELL PHONES – Students are not to have their cell phones during class unless special permission is granted. If I see or

hear your phone, I will warn you. If it becomes a problem, it will be confiscated. A second violator’s phone will be sent

to the office and follow their procedures. If I see or hear your phone during a quiz or an exam, you will not receive a

warning; it will be taken and you will suffer the consequences (loss of all points on the assignment).

RETURNED WORK – You will, of course, receive your major paper back with an ample amount of comments;

however, quizzes and tests will remain in my possession. If you want to look over something, you will need to meet with

me before or after school.

## Tentative Course Schedule

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| Introduction to the Course: Objectives, Textbooks, Rules, Goals, etc.  “The Bass, the River, and Sheila Mant” – page 27 as a review  Literary Elements Pretest  Novel Study Unit – *Of Mice and Men:* Daily reading assignments and quizzes over chapters  Novel Study Unit Assessment: Examination – – This examination will address the following literary concepts as applied to the novel: plot, subplot, character development, theme, historical and cultural context, author’s purpose, and imagery, symbolism, allusion, and setting and their effects. This examination will address the following literary concepts: characterization, character traits, character motivation, static/dynamic/round/flat characters, inference, generalization, author’s purpose, connotation, and denotation.  *Of Mice and Men* – Writing Project: Critical Analysis Essay – For this writing assignment, students will analyze a character, theme, or allusion from the novel.  Novel Study Unit – *To Kill a Mockingbird:* Daily reading assignments and quizzes over chapters  Novel Study Unit Assessment: Examination – This examination will address the following literary concepts as applied to the novel: plot, subplot, character development, theme, historical and cultural context, author’s purpose, and perspective, imagery, symbolism, and setting and their effects. Additionally, the following literary concepts will be addressed: characterization, character traits, character motivation, static/dynamic/round/flat characters, inference, generalization, author’s purpose, connotation, and denotation.  Writing Project – Autobiographical Narrative – This piece utilizes any character’s voice (except the narrator’s) to retell an scene or event from *To Kill a Mockingbird*.  *To Kill a Mockingbird* Film  *To Kill a Mockingbird* Final Project and Presentations  Final Examinations - Vocabulary and Course Common Assessments |

## Turnitin.com

**Students are responsible for verifying their essays are not plagiarized.**  In order to have points recorded for major projects, you must submit every essay to Turnitin.com after peer response and revision and before grading. You must create a personal account to enable this process, so please follow the steps below and establish your account before the end of the first full week of school.

* Google the entry: Turnitin.com
* Click on New Users
* In drag down box, choose student; click next
* Enter the following: **Class** **ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Enrollment Password: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* Click next.
* Enter your email address; click next.
* Enter your personal password [not my enrollment password!] Please keep in mind that your password is case sensitive (for example, paSS123 would be different than pass123), must be 6-12 characters long, and contain at least one letter and one number (for added security). To remember your personal password, write it in your agenda or here: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* For privacy, you will be asked to select a user profile question and type the answer. I suggest you choose a question that does not change. For example, choose your mother’s maiden name as your question. Remember your answer is case sensitive as well! Click next.
* Enter your first and last name; click next.
* Click the new user agreement “I agree” link line. This is to assure you that your email and passwords are secure and will not be sold. Furthermore, it explains that Turnitin.com also prevents your work from being plagiarized, as it stores your documents in its system.
* You should receive an email welcoming message for enrollment in “English 10” class.

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**English II – A ~ Proof of Syllabus Review**

For verification of your viewing and understanding of the syllabus and the course requirements, please sign below.

This form should be signed and returned by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

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Student Signature Date

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Parent/Guardian Signature Date