

## **I. Course Information**

Welcome to English I, an introductory high school-level English course. To be successful in this and other classes this year, you must be able to:

- Be on time with *all* your required materials;
- Do *your* own work to the best of *your* ability;
- Be respectful of other people's opinions;
- See the world differently by learning something new.

This course is primarily focused on the improvement of your reading, writing, language, and speaking skills. We will be utilizing a variety of resources, including novels, poetry, film, music, art, and other miscellaneous media. You should also expect emphasis placed upon career skills, such as collecting research, oral and written analysis, and critical thinking skills.

There are two (2) primary goals of this course: helping you to pass your FCAT Reading exam in April while simultaneously preparing you for English II next year. Passing this class and your exam will require you to thoughtfully analyze, evaluate, and write in various modes of discourse, many of which might seem initially foreign to you. You will likely encounter many successes and failures this year, both in and out of my class. How you react to and triumph over these failures will likely determine your success as a student.

## **II. Required Materials**

<u>Material</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Special Notes</u>
Composition notebooks	2	▪ Basic black & white cover notebooks
Duo-tang Folder (w/ fasteners and pockets)	1	▪ Any color or material ▪ Must have pockets and fasteners ▪ See below for information on organizing this material
Post-It Notes	Set of 3	▪ Regular size or larger
Pens and Pencils	3+ packs	▪ Blue or black ink ▪ Pencils are used for Scantron exams and must be #2
Paper (college-ruled)	2-3 packs	
Student planner	1	▪ Cell phone calendars are not an acceptable substitute

### *Duo-tang Organization*

Cover: You may design a school-appropriate cover to suit your personal taste.

- Left Pocket: Syllabus
- In Fasteners: Rubrics & Misc. Handouts
- Right Pocket: Grade Log & Graded Papers

## **III. Rules & Expectations**

1. Follow directions *quickly*.
2. Have out all materials *before* morning music ends.
3. Never interrupt *anyone*—including Hampton—while they are speaking.
4. Raise your hand for permission to speak or leave your seat.
5. Keep Hampton Happy.

**IV. Grading Scale & Categories**

For all assignments, you will receive one of five grades based on the “mastery” of my content: A (100%), B (85%), C (70%), I or F (0%). You will be responsible for keeping an up-to-date log of your current grades in your Duo-tang folder. These grades correspond to one of the following:

Letter	Percentage	Mastery Level	Information
A	100%	Advanced Mastery	This assignment expresses an in-depth understanding of the material and is well-supported with relevant details and examples.
B	85%	Mastery	This assignment is supported by relevant examples, but could still press deeper in its analysis.
C	70%	Initial Mastery	This is assignment contains little support or evidence to substantiate the claims being made.
I	0%	Non-Mastery	The student has shown below a level of initial mastery by offering no support or explanation on the assignment. These assignments are required to be revised to at least an initial mastery grade.
F	0%		The student has: a) <i>Failed</i> to turn in the assignment or b) <i>Failed</i> to show an “honest attempt” to fully complete the assignment These assignments cannot be revised or resubmitted for an improved grade.

My grading categories are not directly determined by quizzes, tests, or participation, but by the skills you are expected to master. You will complete 8 to 10 assignments per quarter and receive approximately 12 to 15 grades, as some assignments will fit into multiple categories, such as a test that contains grammar, writing, and reading questions. Your grading categories are:

- Grammar & Language                    15%
- Writing & Research                     35%
- Speaking & Listening                    15%
- Reading                                     35%

**V. Rubrics**

Most of the assignments you complete in this class will be graded using a particular rubric (these will be given later in the year). Rubrics allow you to see specifically which areas of an assignment have achieved mastery and those that have not, so you are able to improve accordingly.

**VI. Revising Work**

You may choose any turned in assignment and revise for a better grade, as long as that assignment was an “honest attempt” and was not turned in late. Grades of non-mastery (0%) must be revised. Revising assignments is a privilege, not a right; thus, it is required that the student show that they understand a concept more deeply before they attempt to retake an assignment. Showing deeper mastery of a concept can be achieved through multiple outlets, including conferences with your instructor, “Prove-It” questions, or the completion of all applicable homework. See your instructor for more information.

**VII. "I Missed a Day" Policy**

A typical reason for poor grades is failure to collect assignments after an absence. Marion County policy states: "The student shall have one (1) day for each day absent—excused or unexcused—to make up any work missed." This means if you are absent on a Monday, you have Tuesday to make up your work, and it is due on Wednesday. This same rule applies for two (2) to ten (10) day absences. Out of School Suspensions (OSS) have a different policy of accepting work at half credit (50%) as a maximum. Although this is a county-mandated policy, it is also heavily influenced by your instructor's discretion.

Your primary means of getting missed work for my class is through my website: **[jhampton.pbworks.com](http://jhampton.pbworks.com)**. You'll find links to class handouts, presentations, and homework given that day. Assignments on my website are colored-coded for your ease:

- No highlighting means you are not required to complete the assignment.
- **Yellow highlighting** means you must complete the assignment.
- **Blue highlighting** means that the assignment was taken for a grade.

As an English I student, you are required to have weekly access to a computer to check for missed work. If you do not have access to a computer, befriend someone who does, or plan to come in before or after school. If you ask me about missed work during class, I will direct you to the student computer in my classroom during warm up time and you can access my website there. I cannot answer any questions about missed work during class. If you are absent and cannot come in before or after school *and* you do not have access to a computer *and* you fail to collect your missed work, then you will likely not succeed in this class.

**VIII. Late Work & Emergency Tickets**

Late work is not accepted, unless it falls into the "I Missed a Day" policy stated above. However, you will receive two (2) emergency tickets to use this year. These tickets will allow you to turn in your assignment in this class up to 24 hours after the due date, or 48 hours if the tickets are combined. These tickets should be used for legitimate, unforeseen emergencies only.

Assignments are due the period in which you have me, not after. I will not print your assignments, nor will I accept emailed work, unless I specify otherwise. Do not come to me with your computer or printer problems the day your assignment is due; it is your fault for waiting until the last minute to complete your assignment and/or print it out. If your computer and/or printer dying were truly an emergency, then use one of your emergency tickets.

To submit one or both of your late tickets, write your name, date, and name of the assignment on a sticky note and place it in the appropriate location according to your instructor. Assignments submitted online are automatically tagged when late and a ticket is deducted. Please make sure to keep track of how many tickets you have used this year.

Lastly, be aware that failure to turn in your work in a timely manner will result in disciplinary action, such as mandatory study hall, after school detention, or Saturday school.

**IX. The Honor Code**

Cheating and plagiarism represent the theft of someone else’s ideas or work, either by soliciting answers on a quiz or test, copying an assignment, or by misrepresenting the true sources of your writing. To promote academic integrity, we encourage a sense of fair play with credit sought only when it is deserved. The Academic Honor Code was created to establish a common understanding among staff, students, and parents as to what constitutes cheating. All persons involved in an incident of cheating will be disciplined. This includes those who knowingly supply answers or other information to students and those who utilize that information. Students who cheat will face other disciplinary actions, including suspension from school. For more information on the Honor code, please consult your Student Handbook.

**X. Calendar**

Unit	Information	Weeks
	<b>FALL TERM</b>	
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Introduction to English I</li> <li>▪ Elements of Fiction &amp; Fictional Writing               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Fictional Analysis Paper</b></li> <li>○ <b>Personal Narrative Essay</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	2 8
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Elements of Non-Fiction               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Non-Fiction Analysis Paper</b></li> <li>○ <b>Expository Essay</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	8
	<b>SPRING TERM</b>	
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Elements of Poetry               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Poetry Analysis Paper</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	4
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Research Project / MLA Introduction               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>MLA Paper #1</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	4
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Elements of Drama (<i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i>)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Drama Analysis Paper</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	5
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Elements of Heroism / Student-Selected Novels               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Memoirs of a Geisha, Secret Life of Bees, Ender’s Game, Lovely Bones, The Perks of Being a Wallflower, or Water for Elephants</i> (Selections are subject to change)</li> <li>○ <b>MLA Paper #2</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	5