



Capital City High School English II Course Syllabus 2020-2021



Instructor Information:

Brian Knight
brian.knight@jcschools.us
Room 114
Plan Period: 2nd Hour

Welcome to English II. My hope is that English II will be a class that challenges, inspires, and shapes you. Over the course of this year, you will develop and hone skills for careers, college, and life. I am excited to work with each and every one of you this year!

Course Description:

English II curriculum builds on the expository writing skills developed in English I. Students use these writing skills to compose at least one narrative, one explanatory, and one persuasive full process paper. English II also continues the development of skills in the fundamentals of grammar and usage. Literature read and analyzed includes variety in both genre and author. The state required End of Course (EOC) exam is administered upon successful completion of this course.

Expectations:

Students in this class will be expected to follow all policies outlined in the student handbook in addition to any classroom-specific policies or “norms.” All expectations are designed to maximize a culture of respect for all -- teachers, classmates, parents, community members, and administrators.

Digital Expectations:

If the circumstances should call for us to learn from home, it is expected that you (the student) will continue learning and working as if we were at school. You will be required to attend “class” at the normal time that you would if you were in school. The expectation will be that you log on to google classroom to find the daily assignment including a bell ringer activity. The bell ringer will be used for attendance purposes and the assignments will be graded even in a distance learning situation. Assignments might include things like a video to watch, an activity to do, or a writing prompt. I will be available for office hours on Google Meet daily. I will post this schedule when it becomes relevant. We will try to make it feel as normal as possible. You will still be expected to complete the work assigned to you, read all of the required materials, and even participate as expected in the regular classroom.

Supplies:

Students will need to bring their school-issued Chromebook (charged or have a charger), a pair of headphones or earbuds, something to write with (pencil or pen), a folder or binder, and a notebook.

Special supplies include a mask that covers the mouth and nostrils, a water bottle (water fountains will be turned off). The school will provide hand sanitizer and disinfectant.

A box of kleenex is always appreciated too.

Grading:

Throughout each unit of study you will complete several formative assessments. These formatives are designed to teach you the skills needed to do your best on the unit assessments or summatives (exams, projects, papers, etc.). Formatives are worth 30% of your grade; summatives (tests, papers, or discussion, and presentations) are worth 60% of your grade. There will be a final exam at the end of first and second semester that will be worth 10% of your grade. While formatives do not have as large a weight on your grade, failing to complete them will certainly result in a lower grade on summative assessments, which are the majority of your total grade.

Grading Scale:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
93-100	90-92	87-89	83-86	80-82	77-79	73-76	70-72	67-69	63-66	60-62	59 and below

Late Policy

When students turn in formative work late, the work will lose 10% of its total score, and they may turn in formative work late up until the day of the summative. Students completing summative work late will have 10 school days to complete the summative, but for retakes and revisions, students must adhere to the retake and revision policy below. If the building and/or district determines at any time that long term distance learning is required, the department will re-evaluate the late policy.

Retake Policy

Paper and Projects Revisions: An additional revision cycle is available on major papers and projects for students who have completed pre-writing, planning, and drafting activities on time and have made meaningful revisions between rough draft and final copy or projects.

Benchmark Tests: Because a benchmark assessment is intended to be a summative or final assessment of student understanding of a unit, in order to retake or revise an assessment, students must visit with their teacher before/after school, visit academic lab, or, at teacher discretion, demonstrate additional preparation or mastery of content. Students must also have completed all formative activities that led up to the summative. Students have 10 school days to retake or revise a summative.

Discussion: For a summative discussion, students who fail to participate will be offered the opportunity to engage in a second discussion or other comparable activity.

For formative assessments and writings worth fewer than fifty points, students may retake or revise before the end of the unit/the day of the summative assessment, but teachers may require a reteaching session.

There are no revisions or retakes for term or semester final assessments.

Google Classroom:

We will utilize the learning management system tool of Google Classroom as our online classroom this year. You will need to join our online class by logging into classroom.google.com and using the appropriate access code below.

Period:	1st Hour	4th Hour	5th Hour	6th Hour	7th Hour
Code:	fgyiqtz	tycehxu	nkicoac	m4hzhn3	7x25dim

Teacher Communication and Availability:

Communication is crucial to students' success this year in English II. I want to be as transparent and honest with all students about their progress and success in class. With that information I want students (and parents) to be able to contact me as quickly and easily as possible. I will do my very best to respond to all emails sent between 7:00 am and 4:00 pm the same business day (otherwise, the following business day). Emails or communication sent outside of those times will be responded to as quickly as possible within the next school day.

I encourage students and parents to reach out with any questions, concerns, or comments!