

# COURSE SYLLABUS

## English I Pre-AP

2017-2018

Victoria Katherine Tuttle (AKA: Ms. Tuttle, Ms. T, Queen Tut, or Mrs. Hauptman-Bryan)

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### Course Overview:

Welcome Pre-AP English I students! I am thrilled to be working with you this year as you begin your journey through the beautiful maze which is your high school English career. Throughout this course we will be focusing on developing not just your reading and writing skills, but also your love for literature, language, and communication. Furthermore, as artists, we will focus on developing your ability to express complex and profound concepts as will be necessary to your success in the art worlds which await you. Finally, we will be exploring the theme of "innocence"; we will consider what true "innocence" is, and to what extent anyone can claim true "innocence" in any given situation or society. This will be an exciting year full of challenging, interesting, mind-expanding assignments, so make sure that as the year progresses you communicate with Ms. Tuttle (email) if you have any questions or concerns!

### A Note on Pre-AP:

Because this is a Pre-AP class, students should leave this class reading and writing at or above the level of an average on-level junior student. This will insure that they will be prepared for AP English Language in two years, a class which is considered a college level course. We will begin with the basics but quickly move on to in-depth literary and rhetorical analysis and writing. Second semester, our central texts will increase in complexity and our writing focus will shift to expository. Additionally, more reading will be done outside of class. Yes, students will take the EOC I (STAAR English I) Exam in the spring. However, this course sets its sights much higher: the AP Exams, college, and lifetime of literacy.

### Main Textual and Writing Focus:

Below is a chart of the central texts we will cover by unit. These central texts will be supplemented with shorter texts of various genres including short story, essay (opinion pieces and news articles), myth, and poetry. Additionally these texts will be accompanied with historical contextualization. Grammar and vocabulary instruction will supplement reading and writing throughout the year.

Unit	Central Texts	Focus
1	<i>*Twelve Angry Men</i> by Reginald Rose	Introduction to rhetorical and literary analysis
2	<i>*The House on Mango Street</i> by Sandra Cisneros	Literary analysis
3	<i>*The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet</i> by William Shakespeare	Expository writing
4	<i>*Of Mice and Men</i> by John Steinbeck	Expository writing, Literary analysis, creative writing

**\*Books or texts that you are encouraged to purchase through the school store or independently. If you unable to do so, please contact me as soon as possible so we can arrange for you to have the supplies you need to be successful.**

**Please purchase hardcopies (not electronic) of these works as you will be annotating them!**

## Class Expectations:

### RESPECT YOURSELF

Fight for your own success by . . .

- coming mentally and physically prepared to class on time.
- maintaining a system of organization.
- advocating for your ideas and your work.

### RESPECT OTHERS

Promote the learning of others by . . .

- listening actively to others.
- helping maintain classroom procedures.
- following individual, pair, and group work expectations.
- allowing others the opportunity to learn without distractions.

### Food:

- Students will NOT be allowed to eat during class.
- Students will be allowed to drink water from closed water bottles during class. Other drinks are not allowed.
- Gum will be allowed unless gum begins to appear in places that it should not be or prevents the student from participating fully in class.

### Entrance Procedure:

- Backpacks will be left outside of the classroom.
- On your way into class, pick up handouts if there are any to be received.
- Find your desk and assemble your table.
- Have your laptop easily accessible at all times (meaning at your desk).
- When class begins, Ms. Tuttle will close the door.
- Students will stop talking and focus their attention to the front of the room.

### Grading:

Grades will be split into two categories: Major Grades (worth 40% of the total grade) and Minor Grades (worth 60% of the total grade). Within each of these categories, multiple grades will be given. These grades will be weighted in the following manner:

<u>Major Grades:</u> Summative essays Exams/Tests Projects	40%
<u>Minor Grades:</u> <b>X2</b> Quizzes (reading, vocabulary, grammar, etc.) <b>X2</b> Formative writing assessments Homework/annotation grades Discussion participation grades Other preparation or participation grades	60%

Thus, in the major grades category, all grades are weighted equally unless otherwise specified in a particular assessment's instructions. However, in the minor grades category, quizzes and formative writing assessments are weighted twice as much as homework, discussion, and prep/participation grades (again, unless otherwise specified).

### Extra Credit:

- One or more extra credit assignment will be made available to students by the second week of each six weeks.
- Extra credit assignments will be posted to Ms. Tuttle's website.
- Students may complete extra credit assignments to replace ONE quiz grade (ONE x2 minor grade) of their choice.
- Extra credit does not replace missing homework assignments or participation grades unless specified in the extra credit assignment's instructions by Ms. Tuttle

### Homework/Turn-in:

- All work is due **when the door closes/at the beginning of class**. Any student that is working on homework after the door is closed will not earn full credit on the assignment (see late work policy below).
- All homework must be **completed independently by the student ALONE** (see description of plagiarism and cheating below) unless explicitly stated by Ms. Tuttle in the assignment's instructions. **Additionally, if students are allowed to collaborate, each student must list the full names of EACH of the collaborators on EACH student's homework document.**

### Late Work:

- Both major and minor assignments will be accepted late, but for each day that the assignment is missing, points will be deducted from the possible grade for that assignment as per the following scale:
  - Highest possible grade the day the assignment is due: 100
  - Highest possible grade one day late: 80
  - Highest possible grade two days late: 50
  - Highest possible grade three days late: 0

### Retake Opportunities (Major Grades Only):

- Students will have one opportunity to reassess each major grade (per six weeks) if the original assessment was taken/completed on time.
- Retake assignments for major exams/tests may require students to demonstrate mastery in a different way (EX: written instead of multiple choice).
- Students are encouraged to attend a tutorial before retaking an exam/test.
- Retake opportunities for major exams/test will occur shortly after the original exam/test and will be publicized in the class announcements.
- **Retakes will be averaged with the original grade** in order to generate the final grade for that assignment.
- Students may revise and resubmit summative essays and projects **if their essay/project was submitted on time**. Resubmitted essays/projects will be graded using the original assignment's rubric, and a final grade will be determined by averaging the original grade and the rewrite/reassessment grade.

### Plagiarism and Cheating:

Academic honesty is an integral component of a student's education. All graded academic exercises, including homework, quizzes, tests, essays, research papers and projects, are expected to be conducted individually and completed as the student's original work unless otherwise instructed. **A student found in violation (either through cheating or plagiarism) of academic honesty will be subject to a grade of zero for the assignment with no opportunity to retake, a "P" in conduct for that marking period, administrative referral, and/or further disciplinary action.**

### TO BE CLEAR...

- Summarizing, paraphrasing, or copying someone else's thoughts or words without a citation or credit is plagiarism regardless of the assignment. This includes homework.
- Cheating includes exchanging any sort of information in any format on assignments which are not explicitly designated as group work. This includes homework.
- Despite earning a 0, the student will still be expected to complete the assignment to prove mastery. Because the class is cumulative, it is necessary that all students complete all assignments in order to be prepared for the next assignment.

**Absences:**

- If a student was present to receive an assignment, but is absent on the day which an assignment is due, the student is responsible for turning the assignment in the day of their return to Ms. Tuttle's class. However, if a student is absent and an assignment is given that day (and is therefore missed), the student has three school days (NOT class meetings) after the day of their return to complete missed assignments and turn them in.
- Absent students should go to Ms. Tuttle's website and print the handouts from the classes missed. Students should also check in with Ms. Tuttle during lunch on grey days, during her 8<sup>th</sup> period study hall, or after school (before 3:45) about missed assignments.

**Tardies:**

- Students will be counted as tardy if they enter the class AFTER Ms. Tuttle has closed the classroom door.
- Tardies will be excused ONLY if the student is carrying a time stamp from the office, a Late Bus Pass, or a note from their previous teacher.
- If a student accumulates 3 tardies they forfeit the privilege to complete the extra credit assignment and they will receive a lunch detention.

**Cell Phones:**

- In accordance with school policy, cell phones should be off and out of sight unless Ms. Tuttle explicitly states otherwise.
- If a cell phone sounds, or if a student is actively using a cell phone during class, the cell phone will be collected and taken to the main office. The student or parent will be required to pay a fee to recover the cell phone.
- If a student is using a cell phone in any capacity during a graded assignment, this will be considered cheating and the student will receive a 0 in the grade book **with no opportunity to retake (see above)**.

**Supplies:**

- 9th grade Binder with clear plastic pocket on the front.
- 6-8 Dividers (1. Calendar 2. Supplemental Tests 3. Vocabulary 4. Grammar 5. Writing 6. Tests/Quizzes 7. General Notes/Paper )
- 3 different color highlighters (pink, blue, green)
- Paper/Notebook (college ruled—stored in your binder)
- Writing Utensils:
  - 2 Pencils (#2 for Scantron)
  - Eraser
  - Pens (2 black or blue)
- Composition notebook
- School issued planner
- Laptop
- Current central text (see list above)

**Tutorials:**

- Ms. Tuttle will be available for tutorials during lunch on every red day unless otherwise posted.
- Additionally, Ms. Tuttle will be available for tutorials until at least 4:30 pm after school on Tuesdays (unless otherwise posted). If you need to meet with her another day after school, please email her at least one day in advance to schedule an appointment.
- Ms. Tuttle can be available before school but must be emailed at least two days in advance to schedule an appointment.

**Contacting Ms. Tuttle:**

- The best way to reach me is by e-mail: [vtuttle@houstonisd.org](mailto:vtuttle@houstonisd.org). I check my e-mail until 6 PM most days.
- I will do my best to respond within 24 hours, but will not check my email over the weekend.
- I am available for conferencing by appointment.

**Where to Find Ms. Tuttle/Ms. Tuttle's Class Schedule:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Period	7:50-8:40	Pre-AP English I	Room 135
2 <sup>nd</sup> Period	8:45-10:15	English III	Room 135
3 <sup>rd</sup> Period	10:20-11:50	English III	Room 133
4 <sup>th</sup> Period	12:30-2:00	Conference Period	
5 <sup>th</sup> Period	2:05-3:35	English III	Room 135
6 <sup>th</sup> Period	8:45-10:15	Conference Period	
7 <sup>th</sup> Period	10:20-11:50	Pre-AP English I	Room 135
8 <sup>th</sup> Period	12:30-2:00	Study Hall	Room 133
9 <sup>th</sup> Period	2:05-3:35	English III	Room 135



Period:

## English I PAP Syllabus Signature Page

**I, the undersigned, hereby acknowledge that I understand and will scrupulously adhere to these policies.**

Student Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents/guardians, please provide the following contact information:**

Phone number for parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address for parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address for student: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you!

*(\*Note: When applicable, legal modifications and accommodations will always replace standard class policies.)*