

## English IV

Mrs. Smith (room 218)

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Welcome to Senior English! I am so excited to see you all in this classroom—we've finally made it to senior year! In Hamilton County, four English credits are needed in order to meet graduation requirements. What follows is information about the class, as well as policies and procedures. Let's have a great semester.

### Content:

Students will read a variety of material in English IV. Tennessee's current state standards place an emphasis on non-fiction writings as well as literature. Students will be reading from our literature books that are aligned with selections suited to these standards; the book will be assigned to students in an on-line format for use outside of school. To log on to the online textbook follow these steps:

1. Go to my.hrw.com\*
2. Username: seniorenghlish1920
3. Password: wildcats

\*Please note that for smartphones you will have to select the PDF/Accessible Pages view. I will be happy to show you this feature any time before or after class.

This semester there will be four units in total:

**Unit I:** Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Literature

**Unit II:** Renaissance Literature (*Macbeth*—you are welcome to buy your own copy, but it is not necessary)

**Unit III:** Research and Restoration

**Unit IV:** Romanticism and Poetry

**Materials:** It is the student's responsibility to come to class prepared to learn and work, this includes coming to class with the necessary materials to be productive. **Students should have the following materials by Monday:**

- ✓ Notebook paper
- ✓ Folder/Binder
- ✓ Pens/Pencils
- ✓ Highlighters
- ✓ Post-it-Notes
- ✓ Notecards

*Donated dry-erase markers and tissues for the classroom would be appreciated ☺*

Please note: Being prepared and organized is an essential part of being successful. Materials will not be habitually given to unprepared students.

### Policies

#### Grading Policy:

Teaching Tasks	50% (there are many more of these grades than tests)
Tests/Projects	50% (papers, tests, quizzes and major projects)

**Dropping grades:** Everybody is going to have a bad day; therefore, every nine weeks I will drop your lowest test grade. This includes zeros for unfinished work. Do not think of this as a freebie because I still expect you to work just as hard!

**Make-up Work/Late Work:** Students who are absent will be allowed to make up work missed in each class for 100% of its worth, regardless of suspension or type of absence. It is always the student's responsibility to seek out what needs to be done and return work in a timely manner (**rule: ask three before me**). *Late work* is classified as work that was due when a student was present but failed to turn in. Any late work will have a ten point deduction for every day it is not turned in. Note: students who are absent the day that a long-term project (i.e. something we have been working on for a number of days in class) is due are expected to turn their project in upon their immediate return to school.

**\*None of the above applies to field trips. You will be expected to make up the work missed for a field trip on your own time and be caught up when you return to class. Check Canvas for what you miss.**

**Electronic Devices:** If seen or suspected, cell phones, ipods, headphones (hey, they have to be connected to something) and other "fancy gadgets" will be confiscated and submitted to Mrs. Bargerstock in the front office. **If it's in your hand and on—it's gone!**

**"Any electronic device, including cell phones, that is seen whether being used or not, will be confiscated and held for a minimum of ten days. Should a student become disagreeable, uncooperative, or belligerent, the device may be confiscated for the school year and not returned to the student, parent, or guardian. Confiscation is in accordance with **TENNESSEE STATE LAW, TCA 49-6-4214.**"**

- 1<sup>st</sup> violation – device confiscated; released only to parent/guardian conference
- 2<sup>nd</sup> violation – device confiscated for 10 school days
- 3<sup>rd</sup> violation – device confiscated for 20 school days
- 4<sup>th</sup> violation – device confiscated until the end of term

**Tardies:** In accordance with Hamilton County rules (see Student Handbook), students who are not in the classroom when the bell rings will be counted tardy (it does **not** count that your bag is here). Students must be completely in the classroom and in their seat, not clogging the doorway, wandering around the room, or grouped in a big cluster. Three tardies equals an absence. Each subsequent tardy (4+) results in a referral to the principal's office.

- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> tardy – warning
- 3<sup>rd</sup> tardy – 30 minute detention assigned by teacher/parent notified
- 4<sup>th</sup> or more tardy – office referral

**Hall Passes:** In an effort to cut down traffic in the hall, students will not be able to return to their locker after the bell rings for any supplies they could have forgotten. Furthermore, because they have five minutes between classes, I am only allowing three bathroom passes per nine weeks (that's six per semester). All passes will be used at the teacher's discretion (leaving during class time is an allowance, not a right). If a student does not use their passes they may redeem them at the end of the grading period for two extra points each on the final test. However, if a student uses all of their passes, a tardy will be issued for any 'emergencies' that arise for the rest of the semester (More time in the classroom equals more time spent learning.)

**Classroom Environment:** All students at Hixson High school are here for one thing: the learning experience! In order to maintain a positive classroom environment there are a few house rules that should be followed by all students, no matter what the circumstance:

1. Be Polite
2. Be Prepared
3. Be on Task
4. No Arguing

**Consequences:** Failure to adhere to any of these rules will result in the following:

- 1<sup>st</sup> offence: Warning/Conference
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offence: Detention and a phone call home
- 3<sup>rd</sup>/repeated offence: Referral to administration

**Communication / Conferences:** All parents are invited and encouraged to schedule a parent conference if necessary. These conferences should be scheduled with me in advance. I look forward to getting to know each of you. Please call Hixson and leave a message for me at 847-4800 or e-mail me at [smith\\_dana@hcde.org](mailto:smith_dana@hcde.org)

**Tutoring:** There is absolutely no reason for you to feel "lost" or not understand the material. I am available to help you. I have regular **tutoring hours Monday and Wednesday 2:25-3:00 p.m.** Set up a time to come see me. Please let me know during the day that you plan on staying so I may gather the appropriate materials.

**Rules and Regulations:** Please note and sign Procedures for Mrs. Smith's Classroom. Cut and return the bottom portion for 100 points, it will remain on file for the semester

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***I have read and understood the contents and agree to abide by the class policies.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

***I have read and understood the expectations for my child.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian's home / cell phone number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian's work number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian's e-mail address

I would prefer to be contacted by (check one or rank them in order of preference)

\_\_\_\_\_ Home / cell phone number    \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone number    \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address