

ENGLISH I

2024/2025



Instructor information

Instructor	Email	Remind Course Information
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General information

My name is Heather Melton and this is my fourth year teaching at Lemon Bay. I have been teaching for eighteen years at all different levels. Over the years, I have taught in Englewood, North Port and Tampa. While living in Tampa, I completed a Masters Degree from USF in Reading Education. I teach both AICE Language and English 1. I look forward to a successful and rewarding year.

Description

English I is an introductory course in the subject of literature with a focus on writing. Students will read and analyze a variety of complex texts and write in response to the literature/text. Students will learn about the writing process in order to foster confidence in developing a written voice, use of mechanics, and enhanced vocabulary. This course will cover traditional grammar usage, study skills, library research, oral communication, literary analysis, close reading, vocabulary development, writing, FAST test preparation. The curriculum will focus on covering and understanding the scope of the Language Arts Florida Standards.

Expectations of Employability Skills

- **Communicate:** Effectively and respectfully communicate with teachers and peers.
- **Work Ethic:** Be productive while in class and complete required tasks.
- **Problem-Solve:** Utilize available resources to solve daily challenges.
- **Detail-oriented:** Submit work that has been reviewed and corrected for common mistakes.
- **Time Management:** Effectively budgets time with consideration of other obligations to ensure short- and long-term assignments are completed.

Classroom Rules

- No cell phones, earbuds, or electronic devices used during instructional time.
- Come to class on time with a positive attitude and the required materials.
- Work well with peers and complete all assignments.
- There is no tolerance for plagiarism. The following situations are considered plagiarism:
 - Copying and pasting anything without correct documentation and citation.
 - Copying another's homework – both students will receive a zero.

- o Turning in a paper that you already used in another class (unless it is a predetermined teacher collaborated assignment).
- o Using information without in-text citations and/or documenting it on a Works Cited page.
- o Looking at someone's paper, talking, or using an electronic device during a test, quiz, or exam.

*Minimally, all of the above will result in a zero on the offending assignment with no chance to make it up. Depending on the severity of the offense, further disciplinary action may be taken.

Goals/Objectives

- Students will be able to write a narrative, expository, and argumentative paper.
- Read and comprehend grade-level complex texts proficiently.
- Follow the rules of standard English grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling appropriate to grade level text.
- Communicate effectively using written and spoken language.
- Integrate academic vocabulary appropriate to grade level in speaking and writing.

Course materials

- 1 1/2" ring binder
- 8 divider tabs with pockets OR a separate folder with binder holes
- Loose Leaf Paper
- #2 Pencil
- Highlighters

Required texts:

- 1) *My Perspective English 1*. Savvas Learning Company, 2022. **(This is the required textbook for English 1 in Charlotte County.)**
- 2) Poe: Stories and Poems: A Graphic Novel; Illustrated by Gareth Hinds Paperback – August 1, 2017
- 3) Hinds, Gareth and Homer. *The Odyssey: A Graphic Novel*. Somerville, Mass., Candlewick Press, 2010.

Grade Policy

Total Points

In this course, we will be utilizing a "total points" grading system. This means that each assignment/paper, quiz, project, or activity will be assigned a specific point value, and your final grade will be determined by the total number of points you earn throughout the semester. This approach offers simplicity and transparency, allowing you to easily track your progress and understand how each task contributes to your overall grade.

Grading Scale. The following scale will be used for quarter and semester grades.

A = 90% to 100%

B = 80% to 89%

C = 70% to 79%

D = 60% to 69%

F = 50% and below

$$\frac{\text{Total Points Earned}}{\text{Total Points Possible}} = \text{Final Grade}$$

Category	Point Value
Assignments	10
Projects	100
Quizzes	30
Tests/Papers	100

Make Up Work

Completion Deadline

In accordance with our school policy, students are expected to submit assignments by the designated due dates. However, we understand that unforeseen circumstances may arise that could hinder the timely completion of work. It is the STUDENT's responsibility to collect any missed work. Per county policy, a student will have two days to make up work from one absence. Students with an excused absence will not incur a deduction in points within this timeframe but unexcused students may have up to 30% deducted. **Late submissions will not be accepted past three weeks from the original due date at the discretion of the teacher and with possible point deductions.** Students need to communicate any difficulties they encounter in meeting deadlines with their teachers as soon as possible. This policy aims to foster responsibility and accountability while still providing students with the opportunity to demonstrate their learning and mastery of course material

Test Repair

At our school, we believe in the importance of continuous learning and improvement. Therefore, all students are provided with the opportunity to make test repairs following their initial assessment. This policy allows students to reflect on their performance, identify areas for improvement, and strive for mastery of course content. It's essential to note that this opportunity is not extended to essays or projects that involve rough drafts or progress checkpoints, as these assignments already provide ample opportunity for revision and feedback. Students have one week from the date of receiving their graded test to initiate the repair process. Repair sessions may be scheduled before or after school, but not during regular class time. Additionally, students have the option to complete their repairs under the supervision of a proctor in the media center during tutoring sessions. Upon successful completion of the

repair, students will earn points at the discretion of the teacher. This provides a tangible incentive for engagement in the improvement process and reinforces the value of ongoing learning and growth.

Attendance

Attendance is vital for student success and engagement in our learning community. As per our school policy, students are expected to attend all classes regularly and punctually. In the event of unavoidable absences, it is the responsibility of the student and their guardians to notify the school promptly.

Students who miss more than 20% of instruction will be prohibited from participating in school events such as extracurricular activities i.e., homecoming, prom, athletics, band, ROTC, theatre, and chorus. Research has shown that 10% or more of instructional time missed by students (Pre-K to grade 12) is an early warning indicator for possible academic struggles; this measure is used to define chronic absenteeism nationwide. Florida Statute 1003.24 and School Board Policy 5200.

After the first seven days of absences, a letter will be issued to the student and their parent/guardian as a reminder of the importance of consistent attendance. This communication serves to encourage students to prioritize their education and take proactive steps to address any barriers to attendance they may be facing.

Should a student accumulate ten or more days of absences, a second letter will be issued, emphasizing the need for immediate action to improve attendance, the need for documentation, and the potential consequences of continued absenteeism.

***Please note that for AICE and AP courses, a student who misses more than 20% of period attendance will be responsible for the cost of the assessment and possible removal from the class.**

Furthermore, it is crucial to note that excessive unexcused absences will result in a significant impact on academic performance. Any assignments or assessments missed during unexcused absences will incur a penalty of up to 30% off their grade. This policy underscores the importance of regular attendance and emphasizes the correlation between consistent attendance and academic success. It is our collective responsibility to support students in maintaining attendance habits that foster their learning and development.

Signatures: Please take this syllabus home and review it with your family. Then sign and return it to your instructor on the required due date. It will be checked for credit and placed in your binder.

Student Signature _____
Date _____

Parent Signature _____
Date _____