

# Honors English 1

## Course Introduction and Policies

Aimee Bain

E-mail: [aimee.bain@boerneisd.net](mailto:aimee.bain@boerneisd.net)

Welcome! I'm glad that you've decided to take on the challenge of Honors English 1 this year. Your decision shows that you are dedicated to working hard and committed to improving your language skills. I expect you to find this journey challenging, at times even difficult, but if you persevere, you will be rewarded with deeper critical thinking and clear communication skills.

This course focuses on English language and literature: reading, writing, speaking, and, most importantly, thinking. We will read and analyze a variety of genres, some of which you will choose yourself and others that I will choose for you. You should expect to read and write in every class period. You should also expect to spend time discussing your thoughts with your classmates, sometimes in small groups and sometimes with the whole class. This honors-level class requires you to exercise maturity and thoughtfulness. Keep an open mind, and approach both the works we read and our class discussions with respect.

### Grades

Grades are comprised of 2 categories, which are established by BISD:

- 50% MAJOR: Multiple choice exams, essays, projects
- 50% MINOR: Quizzes, daily reading and writing, homework
- Extra credit is not available.

See next page for details on late work.

### Units of Study

**Note: All units include a variety of genres and short pieces. Longer works are listed below.**

- Unit 1: Foundations of Reading and Writing for Young Scholars
- Unit 2: Literary Texts: Analysis and Composition
  - *Animal Farm* by George Orwell
  - *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller
- Unit 3: Informational Texts: Analysis and Composition
- Unit 4: Argumentative Texts: Rhetorical Analysis and Composition
  - *Lord of the Flies*
- Unit 5: Finding Connections across Literary, Informational, and Argumentative Texts
  - Students will select one of the following:
    - *Everything, Everything* by Nicola Yoon
    - *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card
    - *Illustrated Man* by Ray Bradbury
    - *Bless Me, Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya
    - *A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson
- Unit 6: Real-World Research and Connections

### Attendance

The number one predictor of success in this advanced course is attendance. Because we are on a block schedule, if you miss one day, you're missing two classes. If you are sick, please stay home and communicate with me so we can get you caught up. All absent work is posted on Google Classroom. Do your work BEFORE you come back to class. If you are NOT sick, come to class. You'll be glad you did! 😊 One final note: **Fridays are not free days**. Again, it's a block schedule. Whatever we're doing on Friday is Thursday's or Monday's assignment for the other classes.

## Required Supplies

- Students will, of course, need a **pen**, a **red pen**, and **paper**.
- **Highlighters**, several colors
- **Post-it Notes** (donate these to the class - we use them extensively for annotating and discussion)
- **1" Binder** (You need to stay organized to keep up in class. The binder will be required.)
- **5 Dividers**

## Getting Help

See me before school, ask during class, drop a comment on Google Classroom. I want you to be successful. Let me know if you're struggling.

## Honors English 1 Homework and Grading Policies

Homework in Honors English 1 consists primarily of reading and annotating the story or chapter that we will discuss and write about in class. While the homework is not time-consuming, it is nevertheless **essential** that students finish it and come to class prepared.

Late Homework Policy				
Turned in by the START of class on the due date.	Turned in by the next day at 8 AM.	Turned one class period late.	Turned in two class periods late.	No credit after two class periods.
Full credit	-15 points	-30 points	Half Credit	
Students who have a 504 plan with extra time will have an extended deadline according to the time set in their plan. After that, the regular policy applies. Keep in mind that we will be using these passages in class.				

- **Absent** work must be turned in within one class period of return to class. After that, absent work is subject to the late grading policy.
- If you had homework due upon return to class and were absent, that homework is due upon your return to class, not one class period later.
- Any student turning in either absent or late work **must fill out the Missing Work Form on Google Classroom in order to get the grade updated**. I update that by Friday afternoon each week. If it's not updated by then, email me and let me know.

## Honors English 1 Google Classroom Codes

1st Period	ag4adyn
6th Period	jtfybu5