

# PreAp English I

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

English I-PreAP is an accelerated college-preparatory class for students with advanced writing and reading skills and a willingness to complete rigorous homework assignments. It provides students with the skills essential for success in the Advanced Placement English program in high school. Students in English I PreAP are expected to meet higher standards in reading and writing. They will learn to use PreAP skills and techniques to develop critical thinking skills in analyzing language and will learn to express their thoughts in clear, coherent and persuasive writing. Students will examine the full range of language arts skills, integrating vocabulary, grammar, writing and reading. The literary selections comprise essentially a genre study so students will examine with equal emphasis selections of poetry, drama, short story, and the novel from varied cultures and regions, and they will respond to this literature by writing formal and informal compositions. In addition, students will acquire a more sophisticated vocabulary and explore the grammatical skills essential to writing.

## TEXTBOOK & COURSE MATERIALS

Reading materials will consist of a variety of formats: electronic documents, novels provided by the school, and student-purchased novels.

The iPad is the preferred method of technology in the classroom.

### Google Classroom:

3rd: hcalbb                      4TH: q97hb

PreAP Remind: text @harperpap to 81010

## COURSE INFO

Room 9106  
3rd and 4th Periods  
18-week course  
1 midterm exam  
1 final exam

## INSTRUCTOR INFO

**Susan L. Harper**  
harpersl@lisd.net  
(972) 469-5999 ext. 6130

### Tutoring Hours:

M/W from 7:50- 8:15 AM  
after school by appointment

## SUPPLIES NEEDED

charged iPad  
1 three-ring binder (1.5 " min)  
1 pkg. of dividers  
1 composition book (No Spirals)  
post it notes  
1 pkg. index cards  
red pens  
wide ruled notebook paper  
ear buds

Each student is requested to contribute to the classroom supplies.

Keep in mind supplies need to be replenished throughout the semester.

**GRADED WORK:** Work turned in to be graded should typed, double-spaced OR neatly written in blue or black ink on notebook paper. **Assignments submitted without a name will receive a ten-point deduction on the final grade.**

**LATE WORK:** Work will be accepted one day after it is due **with a 30-point deduction**. No credit will be awarded for work submitted more than one day late. Homework is considered late if it is not turned in at the **beginning** of the class period. This includes the printing of assignments. They must be printed **before** class begins or they are considered late.

GRADE CATEGORY:	PERCENTAGE:
MAJOR	60 %
QUIZ	25 %
DAILY	15%

If a student misses a due date, the assignment is due the first day s/he returns to class regardless of A/B Day.

**MAKE UP WORK:** Work missed due to absences will be handled according to district policy, which is explained in the FMHS student handbook:

*"Make-up work and tests will be permitted for all excused absences. Students will have one day for make-up for each day of absence caused by illness. An example: one day absence = one day for make-up; three days absence = three days for make-up. The teacher will set a time for make-up tests. It is the student's responsibility to take the test at that time."*

\*A student is encouraged to speak with his or her teacher if the student knows of an absence ahead of time, including absences for extracurricular activities, so that the teacher and student may plan any work that can be completed before or shortly after the absence. A zero may be used in as a place holder in Skyward until all work is completed.

**RETESTS:** Objective tests may be retaken for the highest possible score of 70. **Quizzes cannot be retaken.** Students are responsible for scheduling a re-test time with the teacher within one week of receiving the failed test paper. Re-tests will not be offered after this period.

**PROGRESS REPORTS:** Printed progress reports are provided every three weeks to students who have an average below 75. All students and parents are encouraged to follow student progress on the Skyward grade book program.

## **POLICY: BYOT**

LISD is committed to make learning opportunities available through *Bring Your Own Technology*. It is our goal that students and teachers will collaborate in rich, engaging learning experiences using technology. Students may bring their own technology (notebooks, iPads, and e-Readers) and utilize personal electronic communication devices in the classroom **when the teacher deems them appropriate for educational purposes**. FM9 is a 1:X campus and the iPad is the preferred method of technology. All inappropriate and/or non-academic use of personal technology will result in disciplinary consequences. CELL PHONES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTABLE SUBSTITUTES FOR IPADS. **The student must be responsible in charging the device ahead of class.**

**CLASS RULES:**

Be present. Be active. Be mature. Be mindful of your impact.

Keep all cell phones put away.

Trash goes in the trashcan, not the recycle bin.

Respect: the classroom, other students, and the teacher.

Stay seated until the end of class.

Due to allergies and the cleanliness of the classroom, no food is allowed unless by special circumstance.

The only drink allowed in the classroom is water.

**BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS: THE POWER OF INTEGRITY**

There are generally few “rules” in this class, but there is structure. I expect nothing less than your best behavior in this classroom, and this includes maintaining academic honesty and integrity at all times. It also involves listening to others and not talking out of turn.

**POLICY: Academic Dishonesty (Plagiarism/Cheating)**

You must research, create, and compose your own essays and projects. You must appropriately document research sources with citations and bibliographical entries. Cheating/Plagiarism includes the following: *copying a classmate’s work, submitting another person’s work as your own (including taking someone’s revisions as your own), taking phrases, sentences, or larger sections of work from another source and putting it into your own work without quotations and citations, rephrasing someone else’s work without crediting the source from which you took it, sending/receiving electronic pictures of student work/answers, comparing/changing answers before an assignment is submitted. Not all assignments are meant to be collaborated upon with a group or partner.*

If you plagiarize or cheat, you will receive a **zero** on the assignment. Talking during a test will result in a **zero**. Students are not allowed phones/technological devices while testing and/or participating in an assessment process. All offenses are referred to the office. Repeat offenses will result in further consequences. You are responsible for your actions and academic dishonesty will not be tolerated.

**POLICY: CELL PHONES**

All cell phones should be put away at the beginning of class. Students should not engage with social media at anytime during the class. Students are not allowed to take pictures of other students or use the phone in a manner that constitutes academic dishonesty in any way. Students are not allowed phones/technological devices while testing and/or participating in any assessment process. (*see academic dishonesty section*)

***\*Students may not use classroom transition/"down time" as an opportunity to access their technology.***

**OTHER CLASS GUIDELINES:** Congratulations on accepting the challenge of enrolling in PreAP English I in addition to a college course. Based on your middle school success in ELA, it is easy for you to walk into a class and make some assumptions. You expect to earn a very high grade on every assignment because that is the way it has been in the past. While it is great to have high expectations for yourself, I would like to share a different perspective for this course: I want you to experience a *growth mindset*. Literacy skills are never mastered but continuously developed over time. I want you to be willing to learn from your mistakes, which includes becoming great thinkers and great problem-solvers. I am here to help you achieve this. You will experience a learning curve, and you are here because there is more to learn. Please do not demand perfection of yourself because as you know, no one is perfect. I will grade you fairly and I will work with you to help you reach your goals. Please remember:

1. When studying literature, the student will drive the interaction with the text rather than the teacher. This requires engagement on your part to maximize the benefit.

2. Writing is a process. No piece of writing is perfect the first time one writes, and that is a fact. Speak to any writer or any editor, and you will hear the same, therefore writing scores of 100 are rarely achieved.

3. You must make mistakes to learn. Let yourself learn from them; move on. You will benefit so much more.

4. I have a purpose in my teaching. If I grade a certain way, there is a reason. I do nothing without a rationale.

5. If I write all over your paper, it is because I took the time to give you feedback. Too often students see ink and assume that equals a 'bad' paper. *Abolish this idea right now.* My comments are my way of helping you improve. Read them. I take a lot of time writing them because I CARE and I want you to LEARN and GROW.

6. I encourage all students, regardless of the grade, to schedule a conference with me to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of their writing. Please keep in mind, however, that the purpose of meeting is to improve your writing not to challenge your grade.

PREAP ENGLISH IS A MARATHON, NOT A SPRINT!

PLEASE PRINT AND RETURN THIS PAGE ONLY.

**2017-2018**

"I \_\_\_\_\_, have read and acknowledged the 2017-2018 course syllabus for PreAP English I and agree to all of the policies and procedures. Signing this document signifies that I have read and understood the section on plagiarism and cheating and the B.Y.O.T. cell phone and iPad use during class."

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class period: \_\_\_\_\_

"I \_\_\_\_\_, have read the policies and procedures for my child for the PreAP English classroom and by signing this document I grant permission for my student to use Remind notifications in the class."

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact preference:

☐ phone: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ email: \_\_\_\_\_