



**English I Syllabus**  
**Mrs. Meaghan Axel**  
**Email:** [axelm@dcpsmd.org](mailto:axelm@dcpsmd.org)  
**Website:** [ndaxel.weebly.com](http://ndaxel.weebly.com)

**Room: B-5**  
**Planning Pd: A: 5<sup>th</sup> B&C: 6th**

### **Course Description**

This course is designed to develop and challenge your critical thinking skills as a listener, reader, writer, and speaker while reading a variety of literary selections. This course is designed to prepare you for the PARCC assessment as well as subsequent English classes at NDHS.

### **Course Requirements**

You will be required to read, write, and participate in discussions. I ask that you try your best every day. I expect you to make mature decisions. Be present, take notes, ask questions...the time will go by faster if you are actively participating! ☺

### **Textbooks and Resources**

- Holt McDougal Literature Grade 9: You are expected to bring your book to class every day. It must be covered. You have access to the textbook online using the username: **NDorchester** and the password: **b7d5x**.
- Class Website: [ndaxel.weebly.com](http://ndaxel.weebly.com): Assignments will be posted on the class website. This will help you if you have an extended absence and need to make an assignment up to receive a grade.

### **Required Materials**

Pencils

Pens

Highlighters

Notebook paper (college ruled preferred)

A binder (or section of a larger binder) for just English I

A notebook or composition book to keep in the classroom for Writing Workshop

A box of tissues to donate to the classroom

### **Objectives**

You will be able to...

- improve your communication skills for success in high school and beyond.
- demonstrate knowledge of the writing process and produce writing that you feel proud of.
- improve your vocabulary and reading skills.
- analyze themes in different literary genres.

### **Grading Policy**

As per the county policy, all classwork and homework grades are 40% of the overall final grade. Tests, quizzes, major projects, and essays are 60% of the overall final grade. Please refer to your agenda for the full explanation of the grading policy.

## Guidelines for Success

- The #1 way to succeed in English I...communicate with me! Let me know what you need to succeed!
- Be prepared for class.
- Take care of your business (bathroom, sharpening your pencil, passing in late work, etc.) before the bell rings. When the bell rings you should be in your seat working on the warm-up.
- Complete your daily assignments to the best of your ability and meet deadlines.
- Be engaged in class discussions and contribute when working in groups.
- Listen to others when they are sharing.
- Raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged before contributing to class discussions. Stay in your assigned seat unless you have permission to move.
- Challenge yourself!
- Limit distractions by leaving food, drinks, toys, cell phones, and other electronics in your locker (or at home).
- In the event that you are absent from class, please check the make-up work binder and/or the classroom assistance website [www.ndaxel.weebly.com](http://www.ndaxel.weebly.com) upon your return to class.
- Be organized. Keep your English I notes together. You will need them to study for assessments!
- BE RESPECTFUL.
- Have a positive attitude. ☺

## Writing Format

For all paper assignments, unless otherwise noted, you will need to use this heading:

- Name, date, and assignment name must be written or typed in the upper corner.
- Paragraphs must be indented.
- All writing assignments must be edited for spelling and other corrections before they are turned in.
- All writing assignments that are handwritten should be legible and written in ink.

## Consequences

Consequences depend of the severity of the offense, but all will result in a phone call or email home.

1. Lunch detention
2. After school detention
3. Office referral
4. Conference with parent/guardian

Unit Description	Quarter
<p><b><u>Units</u></b> Narrative Structure Characterization and Points of View Setting, Mood, and Imagery Theme and Symbol <u>The Outsiders</u></p> <p><b><u>Skills and Concepts of Focus</u></b> Exposition, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, Resolution, Protagonist, Antagonist, Foreshadowing, Flashback, Internal Conflict, External Conflict, Character Traits, Character Motivation, Point of View, Irony, Setting, Mood, Imagery, Theme, Symbol</p> <p><b><u>Summative Assessments</u></b> Essays Quizzes Q1 County Assessment</p>	Q1 (September 4 – November 7)
<p><b><u>Units</u></b> Nonfiction Research</p>	Q2 (November 8 – January 24)

<p><b><u>Skills and Concepts of Focus</u></b> Author's Purpose, Conclusion, Introduction, Main Idea, Paraphrasing, Plagiarizing, Primary Source, Research Question, Secondary Source, Summarizing, Text Features, Text Structures, Thesis Statement, Tone, Transitions, Word Choice, Works Cited</p> <p><b><u>Summative Assessments</u></b>  Research Paper  Quizzes  Q2 County Assessment</p>	
<p><b><u>Units</u></b>  Author's Style and Voice  The Language of Poetry  <i>The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet</i></p> <p><b><u>Skills and Concepts of Focus</u></b> Alliteration, Assonance, Connotation, Diction, Hyperbole, Imagery, Metaphor, Personification, Repetition, Rhyme Scheme, Simile, Tone</p> <p><b><u>Summative Assessments</u></b>  Essays  Quizzes  Q3 County Assessment</p>	<p>Q3  (January 25 –  March 29)</p>
<p><b><u>Units</u></b>  Argument &amp; Persuasion  History, Culture, and the Author  <u>To Kill a Mockingbird</u></p> <p><b><u>Skills and Concepts of Focus</u></b> Allusion, Analogy, Appeal to Reason, Bandwagon Appeal, Bias, Claim, Emotional Appeal, Appeal to Pity, Appeal to Fear, Appeal to Vanity, Ethical Appeal, Evidence, Fact, Faulty Reasoning, Loaded Language, Logical Appeal, Opinion, Parallelism, Persuasive Techniques, Plain Folks Appeal, Repetition, Rhetorical Devices, Sarcasm, Stereotyping, Substantiate, Support, Testimonial, Transfer</p> <p><b><u>Summative Assessments</u></b>  Essays  Quizzes  Q4 County Assessment</p>	<p>Q4  (April 1 – June  13)</p>

---

(Please detach this bottom portion and submit to Mrs. Axel. Keep the top in your English I binder)

I have read all of the information stated on Mrs. Axel's English I Syllabus. I understand that the guidelines and policies must be followed in order to achieve a positive classroom learning climate that will bring success to my classmates and me. By following **North Dorchester High School's** philosophy of being respectful, responsible, and ready, I can expect to be successful in this class. Failure to abide by classroom rules will result in the consequences. If I ever need extra help or have questions, it is my responsibility to ask Mrs. Axel at appropriate times.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_