English II, Academic Course Outline and Policies

**2016-2017**

# Mrs. Heather Cuthbertson-McFarland

**Conference periods: 2nd and 6th**

**Voice Mail: 414-2837**

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**Websites: http://coachcenglish.weebly.com**

**James Bowie High School website: www.jbhs.org**

#### Major Units of Study

Students will study various works of literature, vocabulary, grammar, writing, and be given STAAR/EOC preparation. This course will cover the Language Arts Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and explore the culture, beliefs and influences of literature and writing from around the world.

#### Materials and Textbooks

Students will be issued all literature textbooks (via Bowie’s checkout system) and novels necessary for this class.

**Please have ALL of your supplies with you by Mon. (A) Aug. 29th and Tues. (B) Aug. 30th!**

* Composition book or spiral notebook **solely for English** (This will be a writer’s notebook)
* Either a three ring binder or folder to keep your English

assignments organized throughout the year

* Pencils and pens (blue or black pen)
* Post-it notes

**Optional class donations:**

* WHITE or COLORED Printer/Copy Paper (Optional donation)
* Markers and / or colored pencils (Optional)
* Highlighters (Optional)
* White-out (Optional)
* Colored copier paper (optional donation for projects)
* Glue sticks (optional donation for projects)

### English II Policies and Expectations

##### Grading System for each six weeks average is calculated as follows:

Homework and daily assignments are worth 15%

Quizzes and mini-projects are worth 20%.

Unit Tests are worth 30%

Essays and major projects are worth 35%

##### Failed tests /quizzes

Students may retake failed quizzes or tests (with few exceptions) within two weeks of receiving the failing grade or by appointment with teacher to improve that grade for a maximum **of 70% during both semesters. All essays may be rewritten within two weeks of receiving grade for up to an 85.** Please take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to improve a failed test or quiz to passing! The importance of learning is mastery not just mindless completion of tasks.

##### Late work

All assignments (homework, mini-projects, major projects, essays, presentations, etc.):

These are due at the beginning of the period on the due date.

Late assignments will be **penalized 10 points** for each calendar day late. After five days, students will receive a “zero.”

##### Make-up work due to absences

Students are expected to keep up with “Absent Work” by checking my website. All work will be posted on my website. Students must ask for make-up work (before or after class) the day they return from absence and are given 48 hours to complete an assignment that is due; this is subject to change by the teacher and in most cases, in favor of more time for the student.

##### Extra credit

Students are expected to earn grades by successfully completing all of the assigned coursework. If there is an extra credit opportunity in my class, you will be made aware when it arises.

##### Behavior

**Class time is learning time.** We are members of a learning community. No student has the right, through disruptions, to prevent any other student from learning. No member has the right to attack, demoralize, harass, or belittle another person in the classroom; sexual harassment, racist or homophobic language and hate speech will not be tolerated. Self-respect and respect for others are the basic guides for behavior.

**Copying / Cheating / Plagiarism**

**DO NOT DO IT!** All Bowie students are expected to act honorably and with integrity. All students involved in copying any assignment, cheating by giving or receiving help on any test or quiz, or plagiarizing or inappropriate use of the internet will receive a zero that cannot be made up or replaced. In addition, students can be subject to a disciplinary referral and/or can jeopardize their eligibility for membership in the National Honor Society. Do not tarnish your character – it is not worth it!

**Cell Phone Use**

Cell phones are not allowed in class unless authorized by the teacher. Please see student handbook and the electronic devices form for all other information.

English II, Academic

James Bowie High School

“Pride in Performance”

Dear Parent(s) and/or Guardian(s) of Tenth-Grade Students of English II:

Welcome to English II at James Bowie High School! English II is a course designed to challenge and engage your son or daughter with Literature and Culture of the World. Our goal is to provide your son or daughter with a literary and mechanical background to encourage success, not only in this class, but in future English courses as well, while we connect with his/her cultural identity. We hope that your student improves his/her reading, writing, grammatical, and vocabulary skills tested on college entrance exams and used in his/her everyday life, as we pursue the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) areas of reading, writing, listening and speaking, and viewing and representing.

Together with your son or daughter, please thoroughly review the English II Academic Course Outline and Policies he/she has received in class today. Please pay special attention to policies surrounding late and make-up work as these seem to vary in each discipline at James Bowie High School.

In addition to becoming familiar with the policies, please take a pro-active approach to visiting my class website **(http://coachcenglish.weebly.com)** to be in-touch with what your son or daughter will be learning each six weeks and also various impending deadlines. Also, should you speak with your son or daughter and need to further speak with me, e-mail **(****coachcenglish@gmail.com** **or** **heather.cuthbertson@austinisd.org****)**  is the most timely method of communication, but you may also leave a message with my voicemail at (512) **414-2837**. Should you leave a phone message, please include your name, your child’s name, and a daytime phone number.

**Best Wishes and Happy Reading!**

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Heather Cuthbertson-McFarland

English II and MAPS EOC

Cross Country and Track & Field Assistant Coach

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