

# -English 2-

HELENA HIGH SCHOOL: 2022-2023



## - Course - DESCRIPTION

This class will focus on a variety of writing styles and reading fiction and nonfiction texts. Each unit will be guided by an essential question that touches upon our year-long question: **What are the challenges of being a good person?**

Unit Themes:  
1: Immorality  
2: Conformity  
3: Bravery  
4: Identity  
5: Rhetoric  
6: Perspective



## CLASSROOM & BENGAL EXPECTATIONS

### - *Be Respectful* -

- Be open to the ideas and opinions expressed by your peers. If you disagree with someone, remember to challenge the idea, not the person.
- **No phone use without teacher permission.** Keep phones and other electronic devices in your backpack.
- Take care of school-provided materials - textbooks, laptop, novels, etc.

### - *Be Responsible* -

- Come prepared and ready to learn. This means having your materials ready, assignments completed, and being seated when the bell rings.
- Ask for assistance when you need it!
- Absences: Look at the daily agenda on TEAMS for the day(s) missed to find out what we did in class that day.

### - *Be Involved* -

- Set personal goals for your learning. Where do you want to improve?
- Be curious about what you're learning - ask questions and do independent research.
- Be an active member of class discussions.

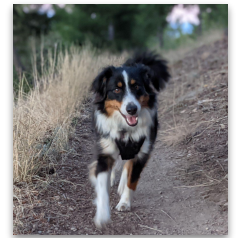
## *About the Teacher*

Hi! My name is Megan Walsh. This is my 7th year teaching at Helena High. I enjoy a good debate and thinking about questions that have no "right" answer. My personal goals for this school year are to give more positive feedback, to focus on quality over quantity, and to build relationships with all of you. Like most English teachers, I love reading! I also like traveling (I'm an adviser for Travel Club), listening to literature podcasts, making unnecessary lists, and playing with my dog, Muldoon.



My Reading Recommendations:  
*Kindred* by Octavia E. Butler &  
*The Codex Alera series* by Jim Butcher

Muldoon's Reading Recommendation:  
*The Call of the Wild* by Jack London



## CONTACT ME

*Ms. Walsh*

The best way to reach me is through TEAMS Chat.



All assignments will fall into one of three categories and are weighted accordingly:

Practice (10%)  
Formative assessments (30%)  
Summative assessments (60%)

### *Practice:*

New skills, standards, and content that students are learning for the first time. The intention is to practice to gain proficiency.

### *Formative Assessments:*

Evaluating the students' knowledge as they learn. This is a method of on-going assessment and it involves questions and exercises to help monitor learner progress during the course.

### *Summative Assessments:*

Assessments administered at the end of an instructional unit. These assessments are intended to evaluate student learning by comparing performance to a standard or benchmark.

## *Assignment Policy*

**Homework:** You will be expected to read and write outside of class time.

**Excused Absences:** Most of what we do in class is difficult to make up (discussions, lecture, literature pods, etc.) However, sometimes it is necessary to be absent. It is your responsibility to find out the assignment and clarify any questions you may have. The first place to check is the agenda posted on TEAMS for that week and/or that day..

**Incomplete and late assignments:** Formative and summative assignments will be accepted and graded up to FIVE school days beyond the final date of the unit. No late work will be graded for practice assignments.

**Extra Credit:** All required assignments must be submitted to be able to receive extra credit.



## *Academic Honesty*

Plagiarism is defined as “the practice of taking someone else’s work or ideas and passing them off as one’s own” (Oxford Dictionary online).

It is absolutely okay to reference someone else’s ideas, especially if they helped you come to your own understanding of the material or were a springboard for your ideas.

If you need help citing someone else’s ideas and/or work, let me help you do it correctly.

- Plagiarism & other forms of cheating will earn you a zero and will result in a referral to building administration.
- Allowing someone to copy your work is also cheating and will result in a zero.

## *Writing*

There will be at least eight (8) significant writes through the year. “Significant” means multiple drafts, revising, editing, etc. Final papers will be submitted via a variety of modalities including digital/hard copy.

## *Independent Reading*

Reading is an essential life skill. It is also the number one indicator for testing success.

We read a minimum of 10 minutes a day independently at the beginning of class. You are also encouraged to read a minimum of 15 minutes outside of class - your choice - your interest.

## *Class Supplies*

- 1 ½” - 2” binder
- 6 pocketed dividers (for handouts, daily work, etc.)
- some college rule loose leaf paper
- pens (blue/black and red)
- pencils
- a highlighter

## *Student*

Read and annotate this syllabus... THEN discuss and review the syllabus with your parents/guardians.

You will need to sign the acknowledgment below. Please have your parents/guardians also complete and sign below. This needs to be returned to me by **Tuesday, September 6.**

By signing below you are acknowledging the following:

- I have read this syllabus and understand the course requirements - including the writing and reading requirements.
- I agree to have all of my class materials in class by Tuesday, September 6.
- I understand the expectations of our school (including the phone policy).
- I understand my responsibilities as an engaged learner.
- I understand the assignment policy.
- I understand the grading policy.
- I understand the academic honesty policy.
- I will communicate with Ms. Walsh if I am struggling with the expectations, course load, or concepts taught.

Student Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

## *Parent/Guardian*

After reading and discussing the course information and syllabus for English 3 with your student, please sign below. If you have concerns, please contact me at [mwalsh@helenaschools.org](mailto:mwalsh@helenaschools.org) or (406) 324-2310.

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please list preferred email address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

Please list preferred phone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

