

**English II**

Course Syllabus 2023-2024

Mrs. Lauren Mitchell

Room 110

Students and parents, please contact me any time at: [**Lmitchell2@helenaschools.org**](mailto:mitchelll@sd5.k12.mt.us) **or through the Teams message feature**. I am also happy to schedule to meet with you in-person.

Daily Course Materials: English journal with lined paper, **charged** Chromebook, homework planner, pen or pencil, folder or binder for storing handouts, hi-liters (at least 3 different colors), index cars, assigned reading material, and a free reading book.

During this course you will…

* Read, discuss, and analyze ***some*** of the following texts: *The Glass Castle,* *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Fahrenheit 451,* various poems, short stories, nonfiction texts, and other novels and films. Novel rationales can be found through: www.helenaschools.org – Departments – Curriculum and Instruction – English.
* Practice reading strategies, writing as a process, group and public speaking skills, peer collaboration, formal grammar usage and conventions, vocabulary development, and critical thinking.
* Write for different purposes including literary analysis, argumentation, personal narrative, creative writing, and research.

Classroom goals:

* I will use Teams to post a weekly agenda of lesson plans for that week, “fake assignments” as reminders, and important handouts under Files.
* Classroom will focus on discussion and collaborative activities with a goal of limited screen-time & limited use of Teams for assignments. I will give and collect paper assignments, quizzes, handouts, etc. We will use computers at times for drafted writing and multiple-choice quizzes.
* You will need access to Teams, Turnitin.com, Socreative.com, and Noredink.com throughout the school year. See codes in Teams-Files.

Attendance per school and district policy:

* I expect students to look at the weekly agenda and message me to **communicate when absent**. Assignments that are long-term projects assigned before the student’s absence will be due the day the student returns. Work assigned or completed during the student’s EXCUSED absence will be due according to school policy (2 days for each day absent). Students will not have additional time to make up assignments for unexcused absences. Students not in their assigned seat and ready for class when the bell rings will be considered tardy. More than 3 tardies per quarter earns a detention.
* Bathroom and hall passes are restricted for emergencies and will earn tardies if need more than 3 per quarter.

Expectations:

* RESPECT all people, property, and ideas. PREPARE, PARTICIPATE, and BE PRODUCTIVE.
* Present ourselves professionally with appropriate language and dress. Shirts or hats referencing alcohol, drugs, or guns are not permitted per school policy.
* **Phones and headphones must be away and out of sight bell to bell or students will receive a violation pass** (see handbook for Corrective Disciplinary Action including violation passes). Phones and headphones will be permitted during select activities only.
* Beverages and **snacks**are okay with me. (You are responsible for cleaning up messes.)

I have high expectations for student behavior. Failure to comply with the above standards will result in:

1. Warning 2. Move to a new seat 3. Teacher-Student conference. 4. Phone call home and referral to administration.

Grades:

* We will write journal entries frequently during class. When I collect journals I will check 3 random entries for thoughtfulness and completion for a 30-point participation grade. These cannot be made up once collected, so be sure to check with me when you are absent. Entries will also be listed on the board and in Teams for your reference.
* Grades will be posted frequently on PowerSchool. Please note that larger assignments such as papers and projects require more time for grading. Semester grades will consist of 40% each quarter and 20% final exam. Grades will be weighted 50% major assessments and quizzes (reading, vocab, and punctuation quizzes, final essays, and tests), 35% assignments (homework, classwork, journals, creative projects), and 15% speaking (Socratic seminars, debates, presentations, speeches).
* **Assignments must be completed on time to receive full credit.** Late work = maximum 85% the first day late, 70% the second day, 60% the third day, 50% after day four, and will stay at 50% until the end of that unit. Assignments will not be worth any credit after the unit is complete. Quizzes must be taken the day the reading or vocabulary is due. There will not be retakes on reading or vocabulary quizzes.
* Any instances of plagiarism or cheating will result in complete loss of credit, phone call home, as well as further disciplinary measures with administration on a case-by-case basis. This includes **any use of AI or any amount of** taking ideas from the internet without citing properly.

I look forward to sharing a great school year with you! Please come see me any time you have questions, concerns, confusion, stress, or if there is anything else I can help with. It is my job to help you thrive this year as a learner and person.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lauren Mitchell

English II Contract

*I have read, understand, and agree to Mrs. Mitchell’s classroom rules and expectations. I have a clear understanding of what is expected of me, and I will do the very best that I can to try and meet these expectations.*

**Student Name**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*\*What specifically can I do this year to help YOU succeed? What is one of your academic strengths and one area you hope to improve? What would you like me to know about you? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**Parent/Guardian Name**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Best means of contacting you:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*\*What specifically can I do this year to help YOUR student succeed? What is one of your student’s academic strengths and one area you hope he/she improves? What would you like me to know about your student? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*\*Would you like to be added to Teams for English class? This will allow you to view assignments, information, and deadline reminders. If so, please write your email address here: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*