

**English 1 Prep**  
**Course Syllabus 2021-2022**  
**Notre Dame Preparatory High School**

**Course Description:**

English 1

2 semesters - 1 credit

Placement determined by admissions portfolio.

This course is designed to strengthen students' critical reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills through the study of both American and world literature. The curriculum integrates informational texts and technology projects to create a blended learning environment. Students will be taught the Jane Schaffer writing method. Additional emphasis is placed on identifying individual and common writing weaknesses and solving and addressing those weaknesses. Mastery of the key elements of the literary genres, short stories, drama, poetry, and non-fiction is emphasized. The basics of research and research writing following MLA style are taught. Outside reading choices are determined by the instructor.

**Course Objectives:**

By the time the student completes this course of study, the student will know or be able to:

- Confidently present information and analysis to the class and evaluate the effectiveness of other types of presentations and their impact on an audience.
- Improve in all areas of composition. Their word choice and sentence variety will be more sophisticated. Arguments will be adequately supported. They will be exposed to timed writing (writing under pressure), which is preparation for the SAT/ACT/AP Testing.
- Discuss literature while distinguishing between fact, opinion, perspective, etc.
- Analyze fiction using appropriate terminology. Students will learn how to write a persuasive analysis by using textual evidence as support.
- Participate in small group and whole-class discussions.
- Respond to writing prompts regarding the reading, their writing, or a particular topic relevant to the class.
- Examine a major theme in relation to/within the context of something they have read in class.
- Analyze image as text, knowing that reading and viewing involve the construction of meaning and that active readers and viewers intentionally engage with the text
- Type essays out of class in various types of writing: response to literature, personal narrative, persuasion, compare/contrast, descriptive, research, and business writing. All typed writing assignments will be in MLA format.
- Use technology in various ways to help develop skills and assess learning progress, including Membean and NoRedInk.

**Instructor & Availability:** Mr. Ryan Pefley ([rpefley@ndpsaints.org](mailto:rpefley@ndpsaints.org)) & Mr. George Prelock ([gprelock@ndpsaints.org](mailto:gprelock@ndpsaints.org)) Phone EX: 8353

**Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday 2:00-2:30 pm or by appointment

**Supply List:**

Device fully charged

Book purchased from book list below

**Required Texts:**

|   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| *Summer Reading Short Stories - 9th Grade Summer Reading                  | 9th Grade Summer Reading |
| **Romeo & Juliet (Folger Shakespeare Library) (J. Vieane's students only) | ISBN-13: 978-0671722852  |
| **Tuesdays with Morrie  | ISBN-13: 978-0767905923  |
| **Lord of the Flies   | ISBN-13: 978-0399501487  |
| **Nothing But the Truth   | ISBN-13: 9780-545174152  |
| **The Last Lecture  | ISBN-13: 978-1401323257  |
| **Death Coming Up The Hill  | ISBN: 978-1328904102     |

**Grading Policy:**

Your English semester grades are determined on a weighted point basis.

The weighting is as follows:

**Formative Assessment – 24%**

- The purpose of Formative Assessment is to offer feedback that guides teaching & learning. Some examples of Formative Assessments are Homework, Quizzes, Participation, Practice Work.

**Summative Assessments – 54%**

- The purpose of Summative Assessments is to measure learning. Some examples of Summative Assessments are Major Writing Assignments\*, Tests, Projects.

**Semester Final Exam – 20% of semester grade**

\*Each major writing assignment takes 20-30 minutes per student to grade. With almost 100 students, expect me to return essays about two weeks after the due date.

**Extra Credit** – There is no extra credit offered in this class.

**Late Work Policy -**

- Homework & Participation: Students will be required to complete all assigned work. No busywork is given in this class. The consequence for late work may include break or after-school office hours time to complete work and/or get help. At the teacher's discretion, full or partial credit may be awarded for late work, provided it is no more than two weeks late. No work will be accepted more than two weeks past the due date.

Please send an email to the teacher BEFORE class time if you would like to request extra help or extra time on any classwork. (Work turned in with approved extension from the instructor may be awarded full credit.)

- Essays & Major Class Projects: All major essays and long-term projects are due on the due date, regardless of illness or absence. Students will lose 10% for every 24 hours that passes following the deadline for late writing assignments or major class projects, up to 5 days late (-50%). If the assignment has not been completed by the fifth day, the student will be required to make arrangements with the instructor to complete the assignment under supervision before leaving campus that day.

### **Late Assignments when Absent:**

As per our student handbook, students have an amount of time equal to the length of their excused absence to make up missing work and exams. It is the student's responsibility to know what assignment(s) or exam(s) are to be completed and make appropriate arrangements with the instructor. If a student is absent from class due to any school-sponsored event such as a field trip, student council or sporting activity, etc., he/she is required to make arrangements to turn in any work that is due that day on time, get assignments that he/she may miss, and be prepared to take any exams or quizzes on the day that he/she returns to class. In other words, no extra time is given for planned absences such as school-sponsored activities, sports, or vacations. Kairos participants will be granted two weeks after returning to make up work assigned or due during Kairos week. Please make arrangements with the instructor in advance for any planned absences.

### **Essays:**

All out-of-class writing assignments and essays must be **typed, double-spaced, & Times New Roman, 12-point font**. All major writing will be submitted through the TurnItIn.com plug-in on Canvas. For in-class hand-written assignments, quizzes, and tests, **blue or black ink** must be used.

### **Turnitin.com/Canvas/Paper Copies:**

Because of the technology provided, much of the work will be turned in to Canvas or TurnItIn.com through Canvas; however, some things need to be printed. Because of this, students are responsible for knowing how and when an assignment is due. It is their responsibility to troubleshoot technology issues, should they exist, and making plans to meet with the teacher ahead of time to ensure that turning in work goes smoothly.

**Academic Dishonesty** – Students who receive 5 behavioral infractions in one academic school year will be placed on a disciplinary contract. Those who violate their disciplinary contract will be subject to disciplinary consequences up to a board hearing or dismissal. Examples of disciplinary infractions are:

- Cheating
- Inappropriate behavior
- Disrespect/insubordination
- Inappropriate use of social media

- Gum
- Inappropriate language

**\*Please note that these are just examples and students will receive infractions when warranted.**

It is the expectation of the institution that all members of our community are honest and forthright.

Students who purposely deceive the Administration, faculty or staff will be subjected to disciplinary sanctions to be decided by the Principal or Dean of Students.

Disciplinary sanctions can include, but are not limited to, Saturday detention(s), in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, a Disciplinary Review Board hearing or dismissal.

### **Media Honesty:**

Students are not permitted to use their electronic devices to record or to take pictures of NDP students, administration, faculty, or staff without permission. Students are also reminded that if they are permitted to film lectures or events in class that are teacher-directed, that video is the intellectual property of the teacher and should not be posted online, shared via email or text, or reproduced without the permission of the teacher.

Any student who posts video or pictures of NDP administrators, faculty, or staff to social media or any other website(s) without the expressed permission of those NDP employees will be subject to disciplinary consequences up to dismissal. Parents are also not permitted to use their electronic devices to record or to take pictures of NDP administration, faculty or staff without permission.

Students cannot post videos or pictures of NDP lessons/recordings to their social media accounts. Sharing, editing, or distributing lessons or videos will be subject to disciplinary consequences up to dismissal.

Students are reminded that they represent the Notre Dame community at all times. As such, students are held accountable for any actions, communications, postings, or behaviors on social media and through electronic communications that may violate the expectations outlined in the student handbook. Students who have been found to violate such conduct will be subject to disciplinary consequences up to dismissal.

**Foundational Values of Notre Dame Prep: Reverence, Respect, Responsibility.** Reverence during class prayer, examen, retreats, mass. Respect for self - I believe you are capable of doing anything you set your mind to do. Respect for others - God created us in His image, and we are all children of God. Treat others as you wish to be treated. Respect for the learning environment - Please respect your school's belongings - keep desks and floors clean, return books to their proper places. Show responsibility by taking charge of your learning: arriving on time, completing work on time, asking for help when needed, bringing everything you need to class

(including charged devices), and taking all of your belongings with you when you leave the classroom. Give every task your best effort. Accept responsibility for your actions and take credit for your achievements.

**Confidentiality:**

Student writing, including journals, is not confidential; any writing that suggests students may harm themselves or suggest harassment or abuse of any kind will be shared with the appropriate authorities and school personnel.

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*Students & Parents: Please sign, screenshot, and upload this signature page to Canvas.*

We (student and parents) have read this syllabus for INSERT COURSE NAME, including grading policies and penalties for Academic Dishonesty and agree to uphold NDP's Foundational Values both in and out of the classroom.

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Student Printed Name                      Student Signature                      Date

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Parent Printed Name                      Parent Signature                      Date

(\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Preferred Phone Number      Parent Preferred Email

[Digital Signature Sheet Shared Here](#)



*Always keeping God and Family as our priority, Notre Dame Preparatory, a Diocesan Catholic High School, engages in the formation of students by integrating faith in a college preparatory curriculum, promoting academic excellence, moral values, and lifelong service.*