

CUNNINGHAM'S CLASSROOM

Ms. Melissa Cunningham
Room 607

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<https://cunninghammlc.wixsite.com/home>

Year Overview

This is a student-centered classroom. You will write regularly, read closely and critically, practice becoming proficient editors, speak confidently, listen purposefully, improve vocabulary, and work productively with others. The format of class will vary. To the right you will see the main units we will be covering this year.

Unit One: Cultural Identity
Unit Two: Cultural Perspectives/Social Justice
Unit Three: Cultures in Conflict
Unit Four: Greek Tragedy/The Hero's Journey

Class Rules

1. When I'm talking, you're listening. This goes for anyone that has the floor in our room: the teacher, another student, or a guest.
2. Our words and actions toward all others will be encouraging, supportive, respectful, and kind. Our classroom is a safe place to explore, test the boundaries of our knowledge, try, fail, and try again. Everyone has something of value to contribute. We will help our classmates find their voice and share their story without fear of judgment. We will respect each other's personal space.
3. Come to class prepared to learn and contribute. Apply yourself. STUDY. Challenge yourself. Don't settle for less than what you are capable of. Bring a paper and pencil. Turn in assignments on time. Participate in class.

Grading

A: 90-100 B: 80-89 C: 70-79 D: 60-69 F: 59 and below

Formative Grades (Daily Work/Quizzes) – 60% / Summative Grades (Tests & Writing) – 40%

Participation will be a huge factor in your success in my class. Even when we are doing an activity that is not for a "grade," I expect you to complete the work in order to prepare for the next graded assignment. My hope for you this year is for you to not only get a "good grade" but to grow as a student and person.

Required Materials

- Pencil or Blue/Black Pen •Notebook Paper •\$7 Lab Fee
- 3 Ring Binder with 5 tabs: Bell Work, Unit One, Unit Two, Unit Three, Unit Four
- Multicolored Highlighters and Post-it Notes •PHS Planner
- Independent Reading Book

Optional donations: Kleenex (desperately needed!), Germ-X, Paper Towels, Clorox Wipes, Band-aids, Extra loose-leaf notebook paper and/or copy paper, new or gently used books for class library

Remind

I regularly use the free text service called REMIND to keep in touch with students and parents about the goings on and assignments in class. Using the Remind App is suggested, but you may choose to receive Remind via text-message instead. Students AND parents should sign up.

English II: Text @d2h22a to this number: 81010
English II Honors: Text @e8bbk8f to this number: 81010

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THE FINE PRINT

ABSENCES/LATE WORK

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check the make-up work folder on my website and complete your missed work. Any hard copies of handouts will be in the make-up work organizer at my desk.

I understand life happens and sometimes assignments do not get completed on time. However, I take deadlines very seriously. You will receive a 10% grade deduction for every day an assignment is late.

If you earn a failing grade on an assignment and would like to re-do it, come talk to me about it. I will generally say yes, but the conversation is your responsibility, not mine. I reserve the right to refuse late work or a re-do on a case-by-case basis.

CELL PHONE POLICY

As a young adult, you are responsible for your choices and their consequences. You may have your cell phone out in my class, you may charge your cell phone in my class, and you may listen to music in my class. However, if any of those things cause you to miss instruction time, you will not be re-taught and you will earn a grade that reflects your distraction. If your phone or music become a disruption to your classmates or myself, you may be asked to put the phone away. Failure to do so will be an act of defiance and will be treated as such.

We will use our phones often as tools in my class. If you are using your phone as an instructional tool, you are expected to use it for the assigned task only.

When there is a substitute teacher in our class, he/she is the authority in the room. His/her cell phone/headphone policy may not be the same as mine, and you are expected to follow his/her instructions for the duration of his/her stay.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

If you choose to break a rule, you will be responsible for facing the consequences of your choice, in concordance with school policy. In order to be as fair as possible, while maintaining a efficient and productive classroom, the consequences for wrong choices are listed below in order. They are subject to change based on the severity of the disruption.

1. Warning or verbal correction
2. Action Plan assigned and formal parent contact made
3. Referral written and student sent to office

INDEPENDENT READING

All English II students will be required to complete independent reading during/outside class and participate in an online discussion board as they read. You should have a book with you AT ALL TIMES.

After reading the English II Syllabus, please complete and return this portion.

I have read and discussed the above expectations with my parents and fully understand them (please ask any questions before signing).

Student's Name: _____

Period: _____

Student's Signature: _____

MOVIE PERMISSION: To support the units planned in this course, some videos rated Parental Guidance may be shown. If you agree to grant permission for your child to view PG/PG-13 movies, please sign below. Alternate assignments will be provided for students whose parents do not permit them to watch these videos.

Parent Signature: _____