

Dear Families,

Welcome to your English III class! We are excited about our plans this year, and we look forward to working with you. This year we hope to support our students' development as critical readers and writers through writer's workshop and multiple opportunities for them to engage with a variety of texts. By the end of this school year, our students will be prepared to continue high school with the skills they need in order to be successful in and out of the classroom.

Because the ELAR TEKS recently changed for high school, please know that the coursework in English will really look much more integrated—students will be reading, writing, listening, speaking, and thinking all the time! Furthermore, students will have access to a textbook, both in class and digitally.

In this unit students will read a variety of narrative texts, including memoirs and short stories. As students read, they will focus on how literary writers use stories to make a point about a specific topic, or why it matters.

Students will also identify and analyze how narrative writing techniques use personal examples and ideas to make a point with the intent of using these strategies to create their own narrative. During this unit, students will also write their own literary narrative essays in the form of a college or business application essay.

Students will have a reading and writing assessment that will be given after each reading and writing unit. The writing assessment will focus on skills specific to college entrance exams such as the ACT, SAT, and TSI. Students will also begin working on test preparation strategies to get them ready for whatever college, military, or certification exam comes their way.

We encourage you to speak with your students about what they are reading, writing, and learning in class. Be sure to continually review their performance via Skyward Access. We look forward to working with you this year!

Respectfully,

EMS-ISD 11th Grade ELA Teachers