



*Continuing a Culture of Excellence*

## English III

Andy Acuna

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Remind: Text @42h3g2 to 81010

**Conference Period:** 7th period

**Tutoring Opportunities:** Wed. or Fri. 4:30-5:00 pm (or by appointment)

### Class Materials:

- **Required Materials**
  - ½" or 1" notebook
  - 2 packages of notebook paper
  - Pencil or pen (blue or black ink only for submitted assignments)
  - Box of Kleenex (for class use)
- **Required Reading**
  - *Hamilton* by Lin Manuel Miranda
  - *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
  - *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls
  - Various short stories, poems, and excerpts

Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

### Course Description:

This class is intended to enrich the literary knowledge base, written, and verbal communication skills of eleventh grade students at Boswell High School. In this course, students will study literature through short stories, novels, plays, and poetry. Students will also become more effective writers by studying the writer's craft in literary fiction and nonfiction mentor texts (expository, personal narratives, and persuasive texts).

In addition to daily reading and writing activities, students will be assigned various independent and group project assignments. There will be time given in class, but it is imperative that students organize their time outside of class to accomplish all assignment goals

Class involvement is necessary, thus, formative grades are taken on a weekly basis through class dialogue and contribution. It is the expectation that each student fully involves him or herself in the classroom atmosphere in order to develop critical thinking and evaluation skills; this includes verbal and written classroom assignments. Unattempted work is not tolerated.

As stated in the EMS-ISD Course Guide, *"In English III, students will engage in activities that build on their prior knowledge and skills in order to strengthen their reading, writing, and oral language skills. Students will read and write on a daily basis. Instruction emphasizes all aspects of American Literature. Students read extensively in multiple genres from*

*American literature and world literature, learn literary forms and terms, and interpret the possible influences of the historical context on a literary work. Students write in a variety of forms, including expository, personal, literary, and persuasive texts. Students plan, draft, and complete a research paper. Students revise and edit their papers for clarity and the correct use of the conventions and mechanics of written English as part of the writing process."*

### **Course Goals:**

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to read critically and become a more effective writer by studying the writer's craft in literary fiction and non-fiction texts.

### **Student Evaluation:**

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor
- Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, six weeks assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
- Semester exams will count 1/7 of the semester grade
- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student's conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), "The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, six-week test, and semester final examinations. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.

### **Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:**

Due to the nature of the course, you will be expected to complete some coursework outside of class. As a general rule, if I assign homework (which is rare), it is important, so come to class prepared to talk about it. Each grading period, you will have 3 summative assessments: a multiple-choice test; a process essay; and a short answer response question.

### **Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:**

(From the EMSISD Student Handbook)

A student will be responsible for obtaining and completing the makeup work in a satisfactory manner and within the time specified by the teacher. A student who does not make up assigned work within the time allotted by the teacher will receive a grade of zero for the assignment. Students shall have time equal to days absent from class plus one day to complete all missed assignments. A student is encouraged to speak with his or her teacher if the student knows of an absence ahead of time, including absences for extracurricular activities, so that the teacher and student may plan any work that can be completed before or shortly after the absence. A student will be responsible for obtaining and completing the makeup work in a satisfactory manner and within the time specified by the teacher. A student who does not make up assigned work within the time allotted by the teacher will receive a grade of zero for the assignment. Students shall have time equal to days absent from class plus one day to complete all missed assignments. A student is encouraged to speak with his or her teacher if the student knows of an absence ahead of time, including absences for extracurricular activities, so that the teacher and student may plan any work that can be completed before or shortly after the absence.

(From the EMSISD Student Handbook)

Because tardiness disrupts the classroom and negatively affects the learning environment, students should arrive punctually to each of their classes. Students are allowed an adequate passing period to travel from one class to the next. Excessive 107 unexcused tardies will be addressed by campus administration. Repeated instances of tardiness will result in more severe disciplinary action, in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

All missed tests and quizzes must be completed outside of class time during tutoring times or BOSTime. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements to take care of missed tests and quizzes. Major projects will be due on

the due date. If the student knows about the absence in advance, the student should make arrangements to have the project turned in on the due date.

Late Work- Late work is defined as any assignment not turned in on the assigned and teacher communicated due date is considered late. An assignment may be turned in under the following guidelines:

- 1 school day late – maximum score is 85
- 2 school days late – maximum score is 70
- 3 school days late – maximum score of 60
- After 3 school days late – no late work is accepted. A zero will be recorded in the gradebook.

**Classroom Expectations:**

- English III students will participate in a respectful manner at all times. Students must have required materials with them every day.
- Electronic devices are to be used for lessons only and with permission; please keep in a closed compartment.
- I will follow the school policy on tardies. You must be in your seat, with your materials on your desk, when I close my door to be on time.
- Please keep your food in the cafeteria or Bistro. You may have your drink in a sealed, spill-proof container in the classroom. (No cups with straws and lids.)
- Please make sure to use the restroom facilities between classes. Students will not be able to leave class during direct instruction or during the first or last 10 minutes of class.

Consequences:

- 1) Verbal warning
  - 2) Move seats (with Action Plan) and phone call home
  - 3) Sent to office with referral; phone call home
  - 4) Parent conference
- Severe disruptions = Immediate referral & office visit*

**Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments**

- 1<sup>st</sup> 6 Weeks: Literary Non-Fiction
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 6 Weeks: Literary analysis, drama; *Hamilton*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 6 Weeks: Poetry; Definition Essay
- 4<sup>th</sup> 6 Weeks: Literary Analysis; *The Great Gatsby*
- 5<sup>th</sup> 6 Weeks: Argument
- 6<sup>th</sup> 6 Weeks: Digital Literacy; *The Glass Castle*

**Academic Integrity:**

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty, includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.