

English I emphasizes the skills of communication and organization. Strong emphasis is placed on oral and written communication skills. Basic grammar usage, letter writing, vocabulary, study, listening skills, and library skills are integral components of English I. A broad mixture of literature including contemporary pieces, as well as classics, such as Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Odyssey*, will be analyzed. Written exercises on paragraphs, compositions, and journals will be completed in conjunction with short stories, plays, articles, and novels. Students will complete response journals and essays related to readings.

Teacher Information:

Mrs. Patricia Masten—Room 116

Email: patricia.masten@polytech.k12.de.us

Voice Mail: 697-3255 ext. 1116

Text and Course Materials:

- *Holt McDougal Literature* (Common Core Edition). (2012). Orlando: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. *Please note that students will have access to a hard copy of this textbook as well as an online version. Once given a user name and password, students may access the textbook at <http://my.hrw.com>.*
- Accelerated Reader novels
- Academic supplies:
one-inch three ring binder, dividers, lined white paper (with smooth edges), dark blue/black ink pens or mechanical pencils, correction fluid/tape, 3 inch Post-it notes, highlighter, note cards, a USB drive

Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts:

This course supports the ELA Standards for English Language Arts in each of the 5 areas below.

- Reading-Literature
- Reading-Informational
- Writing
- Speaking and Listening
- Language

For additional detail: http://www.doe.k12.de.us/commoncore/ela/files/Standards_by_Grade.doc

Objectives:

- Students will learn effective test-taking skills (multiple choice, short answer, extended response, and essay).
- Students will develop study skills (skimming, scanning, outlining, summarizing, and paraphrasing).
- Students will engage in critical thinking (use classification, draw conclusions, identify generalizations).
- Students will exercise effective listening and speaking techniques (active listening, class discussions, dramatic readings, and a formal presentation).
- Students will build vocabulary, improve spelling, learn proper parts of speech and proper sentence structure, distinguish between phrases and clauses, and learn proper English mechanics usage.
- Students will explore the writing process through prewriting, drafting, revising, proofreading, and publishing.
Students will explore various types of writing (letters, narrative, descriptive, expository, persuasive, and responses to literature).
- Students will expand research skills (learning to use the LRC, writing research projects, and using a computer).
- Students will participate in independent and cooperative learning situations.
- Students will learn to be reflective editors and critical thinkers about their own work.

Evaluation/Grading Procedures:

- Student grades will be based on 100 points and will be weighted :
 - Summative assessments 60% (Including tests, essays, major projects)
 - Formative assessments 20% (including homework and class work)
 - Formative assessments 20% (quizzes and selected class work projects)
 - All grades will be based on 100% and will be waited in E School.
- Parents/ guardians may contact the school to gain access to the Eschool grading program. Through this Internet-based program, parents/guardians may see only their student(s) grades for class averages and individual scores. Scores will be updated approximately weekly; in addition, a printed grade report will be sent home to be signed by the parent/guardian and returned (by the student) promptly to the teacher. A “0” on the grade report indicates a permanent grade for an incomplete assignment. An “Ab0” on the grade report indicates a missing assignment due to absence that must be completed in a timely manner. DHI on the grade report indicates did not hand in the assignment. DHI work will be considered late and will lose full credit.
- Students will take a final exam consisting of multiple choice, short answer, and extended response questions, which will account for 1/5 of the students’ final grade. Per school policy, any student who is unable to take the exam on the scheduled exam day(s) must reschedule prior to the exam. The teacher will issue a zero for any portion of the exam that is not rescheduled.

English Tutoring: 7:30-8:00—Thursdays with Mrs. Masten—room 116 (by appointment)

Classroom Expectations:

Follow school-wide expectations per online conduct guide. The school behavior policy is in effect. Conduct yourself with POLYTECH panther pride at all times. Follow the school rules. Consider others.

- Follow class rules: **“Respect for self; Respect for others; Responsibility for all your actions” & the 5 P’s: Prompt, Positive, Prepared, Polite, Productive**
Failure to meet school-wide and/or classroom expectations will result in one or more of the following consequences: verbal reprimand, communication to parent/guardian, after school detention with demerits. Note: Cell phone use is not permitted during school hours.

Classroom Procedures:

- **Beginning Class:**
Students will enter the class, turn in/pick up missed assignments from an absence, and be ready for work when the bell rings.
- **End of Class:**
Students will remain in their seats until the end of class and will not pack up their materials until prompted by the teacher.
- **Presentation of Work:**
All graded work must be turned in neatly and professionally (without rips, stray marks, or doodles) in dark blue/black ink, pencil, or word-processed as necessary. All graded work should include the POLYTECH heading in the upper right corner of paper. Example:
 - First and last name
 - Formal date (no abbreviation)
 - English I/Period #

Any work submitted without meeting requirements may not be accepted and/or receive loss of points.

- **Content of Work:**

All graded work for this class must contain school-appropriate material. If work contains inappropriate content or indicates the student harming others or him/herself in any way, the work will be forwarded to the appropriate area for guidance or disciplinary action. In addition, plagiarizing (turning in or assuming credit for the work/ideas of others) or communicating with another student during a test will result in loss of points with probable disciplinary action.

- **Late Work:**

All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Students are expected to turn in work on time. In an extenuating circumstance, (excluding work and extra-curricular school activities) an extension of one day may be granted if the parent conveys a note, email, or phone call to the teacher *on or before* the assignment due date. Late work will receive a time-based deduction. Homework, one day late, will be accepted for half credit.

- **Hall Passes:**

No students will be in the hall during the first 10 or last 10 minutes of class. Plan accordingly and be prepared with all materials needed for learning.

- **Make-Up Work:**

Make up work is the student's responsibility to complete. Students will pick up their make-up work from the teacher, and complete make-up work within one week. Students with excessive absences (more than 4 in a row) should see the teacher immediately to work out a schedule for completing the work. Students may complete make-up quizzes or tests on Thursday mornings or after school by appointment or during after school tutoring.

Please note:

- If a student is absent the day something is due, but was present the day it was assigned, it is due immediately upon the student's return to class, or it will be considered late without a parent note.
- If a student expects to miss class time due to a school-related activity (driver's ed., field trips, sports), he/she is responsible for getting the assignments and turning in all work that is due *prior* to participating in the activity.

- **Passes (Leaving Class with your Agenda Book):**

Students will not request to leave except in emergencies. Sign out legibly on the sign out form, You are limited to four rest room requests.* There is a 4 minute time limit on emergency passes. Request permission, fill out the lines in your agenda book, and then I will sign your agenda book. We will observe a 10/10 policy. This policy means no passes the first or last 10 minutes of class. Please plan accordingly.

Without interrupting the flow of class, students may use the bathroom or see the nurse (one at a time) for emergencies. Students may also go to the LRC for Accelerated Reader purposes as class time and computer availability permits. All departures to and returns from the bathroom, nurse, or LRC, must be documented on the sign-out sheet and agenda book. Students will not be dismissed to go anywhere else unless the teacher receives a written or verbal request from another teacher, guidance counselor, Wellness Center nurse, or administrator. Students may not go to their cars during the day.

- **Late/No Arrival to Class:**

A student arriving late to class must have a pass to avoid a detention (after three lates). In addition, no student is permitted to miss class without a documented reason (excused/unexcused absence or tardy, early dismissal, field trip, etc.). Any student missing class without the teacher's approval will be written a detention for unauthorized area or unauthorized school departure.

Return this page signed by a parent for a homework grade by August 29, 2013.

Student **Printed** Name _____

Parent Signature _____

Parent **Printed** name _____

Parent Email _____

Phone contact numbers

Home _____ Cell _____ Work _____

Websites

Classroom site: <http://polytechpanthers.com>

Textbook site: <http://my.hrw.com/>

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Please sign above to acknowledge that you have read and reviewed the previous information with your son or daughter. We have reviewed and discussed this information in depth in class; therefore, your son or daughter will be able to clarify the information presented. Student progress will be available with online access. If you still have questions or would just like to talk to me, please feel free to contact me. The best way to reach me is through email: patricia.masten@polytech.k12.de.us . I am happy to have your son or daughter in this class and look forward to a productive semester.

Please return this sheet to me after signing.

Sincerely,

Patricia Masten, NBCT