

**Course Name: English 1-2 (ENG 121)**

**Course Description:**

This course is specifically designed to equip you with skills necessary for success in reading, writing, speaking, listening and thinking. Some of the main focuses include: learning and practicing study skills, reading young adult contemporary novels, creating a pamphlet, analyzing short stories, expressing your thoughts and beliefs clearly through journaling, poetry, essay writing, and delving into the world of Shakespeare and Greek mythology.

**Teacher Name: Kate Riepe**

**Teacher Email:** [kriepe@dubuque.k12.ia.us](mailto:kriepe@dubuque.k12.ia.us) (after October) [kriepe@dubuquschools.com](mailto:kriepe@dubuquschools.com)

**Office Hours: 5th period in the English Office**

**The best way to get a hold of me is through my email. I move classrooms throughout the day, and another teacher is in my room during office hours.**

Writing Expectations:

Like any other accomplishment in sports, art, or music, becoming an effective writer takes PRACTICE, and practice requires TIME. When you work on a skill--and writing is just that--you work on different focuses, repetitively, in order to master that skill. You will be expected to develop and polish certain pieces of writing. Several times you will freewrite in class. Most of these exercises will be ungraded; however, from these assignments will spring essays and polished pieces, which you, your classmates and I will assess. We will also use the MyAccess, which provides writing prompts and revision assistance electronically (available at [myaccess.com](http://myaccess.com)).

Reading Expectations:

Required readings center on relevant adolescent issues and include classical and contemporary literary works from various genres. We will read and analyze **5-6** major works during the year.

Major Works and Writing Pieces

*Of Mice and Men*- Deeper Reading

*Odyssey*- Personal Narrative

*Speak*- Analytical Essay

*All the Earth Thrown to the Sky* – Research Project

*The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*- Connecting Literature

*Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* –Socratic Circles

Alternate Texts

*Fahrenheit 451*- Expository Essay

*Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes*- Personal Response

Potential Films (all films are rated PG-13 or lower)

*Of Mice and Men* (1992), *Big Fish* (2003), *O Brother Where Art Thou* (2000), *Seabiscuit* (2003), *The Client* (1994), *Romeo+Juliet* (1996), *Warm Bodies* (2013), *School Ties* (1992), *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* (2011), *Temple Grandin* (2010), *Speak* (2004), *Minority Report* (2002) PG-13, *What's Eating Gilbert Grape* (1993)

Grading Scale:

93%-100%=A

90%-92%=A-

87%-89%=B+

83%-86%=B

80%-82%=B-

77-79%=C+

73%-76%=C

70%-72%=C-

67%-69%=D+

63%-66%=D

60%-62%=D-

0%-59%=F

### Make-up Work:

Any work missed for any reason MUST be made up. You have 24 hours for each day absent to make up missed work. It will be YOUR responsibility to contact me to discuss missed work.

### Extra-Credit

Opportunities for extra-credit will be limited to enrichment activities and will be provided at my discretion. There is a 50 point cap on all extra credit.

### Classroom Behavior:

The classroom MUST be a place conducive to learning. You will be expected to respect yourself, your classmates, school property, and me. Focus on behaving appropriately in all situations. If you have any question as to whether or not a specific action is appropriate, err on the side of **not** doing it! There will be 50 points per quarter that will be graded according to your attitude, work ethic, job performance/effort, contribution, and relationship with others. Only respectful young adults will be allowed to participate in the class. I will speak with you personally about an issue, talk with parents regarding inappropriate behavior (as necessary), and request administrative assistance as appropriate.

**Electronic devices and food are not to be seen or heard during class time. If it becomes an issue you will lose points from your final grade due to your poor choices. Repeated or extreme offensive will result in a behavior plan that will ban all devices from my room.**

### About Late Work:

Homework will be accepted the day after it is due for partial credit, credit will decrease as time goes on. I will accept late work up until the week prior to the end of the grading term. I am willing to be as flexible as you are diligent in your effort to pass the course.

**EXTENSION MUST BE REQUESTED AT LEAST 24 HOURS BEFORE THE DUE DATE!!**

### Attendance Concerns:

I will be following the attendance policy put forth by Hempstead High School, you can find this policy in your student handbook. As a rule, I will recommend that students with excessive absences be dropped from my class. I expect all students to be in class **ON TIME EVERY DAY.**

### **PLAGIARISM**

Hempstead students are expected to do their own schoolwork. Cheating by looking at another student's schoolwork, copying others' work, copying from other sources or similar cheating is not tolerated. With the advent of the Internet, the availability of information has exploded into a whole new and exciting realm for our students. The accessibility of documents has also brought with it an increasing concern regarding plagiarism, which is a form of cheating.

All Hempstead teachers are committed to educating our students about plagiarism, helping them understand what plagiarism is—especially through specific instruction in individual courses. We aim to teach students how to accurately quote and document sources as well as how to effectively convert researched information into their own words.

Plagiarism is defined by [www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com) as: "a piece of writing that has been copied from someone else and is presented as being your own work; taking someone's words or ideas as if they were your own." Iowa Core Literacy Anchor Standard #8 for College and Career Readiness states that students will: "Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism."

Cheating, including plagiarism, may result in loss of or reduced credit on an assignment, referral to the Assistant Principal office for documentation on the student's record, and possible loss of class credit and failing grade. Plagiarism and cheating exist in many forms and to various extents. Some typical examples are noted here:

1. Copying another student's assignment /project; **BOTH parties are engaging in cheating**
2. Using another person's paper/artwork/project/ in its entirety and calling it your own
3. Copying a paper word-for-word (artwork/project) from an internet document or documents
4. Using sentences from another source but replacing a few words
5. Passing off ideas or critiques as your own when they are someone else's
6. Not putting quotation marks around exact words pulled from another resource
7. Not documenting the source at all, or documenting the wrong source
8. Not citing the sources used (even when paraphrasing and summarizing)

Incidental plagiarism will be addressed by the classroom teacher, and may include loss of credit for the assignment and parent contact. Consequences for blatant plagiarism and repeated acts of incidental plagiarism are listed below. Disciplinary action by Hempstead administration **may include loss of class credit and failing grade.**

**\*Freshmen:** 1<sup>st</sup> occurrence: 0% on plagiarized piece, possibility of revision for a better grade, parent contact, referral to Assistant Principal for documentation; repeated plagiarized pieces 0% without revision, parent contact and referral to AP Office for possible disciplinary action

**\*Sophomores:** 1<sup>st</sup> occurrence: 0% on plagiarized piece, possibility of revision but with grade reduction, parent contact, referral to Assistant Principal for documentation; repeated plagiarized pieces 0% without revision and referral to AP Office for possible disciplinary action

\*Freshman & Sophomore students enrolled in Junior/Senior level courses will abide by the regulations and consequences set forth for that course.