DESCRIPTION

Sophomore English covers Literature in a holistic frame of thought. Students have an opportunity to study literature as apart of the humanities. Included are studies of the essay short story, poem, drama, novel, and historical nonfiction; discussion and writing are the prime focus. Teachers challenge students to think, speak, read, and write on the literal, interpretive and evaluative levels. Students read novels for class in and out of class. Each semester students must independently read and respond to three novels. Writing assignments include reflective, narrative, and persuasive modes, as well as literary analysis. In addition, students study vocabulary, grammar, and usage each semester and must know their use of technology by the end of each semester. CCHS requires students to show accountability for their work by meeting late work deadlines every six weeks.

CONTACT INFORMATION CLASSROOM WEBSITE

Cindy Nicolia [www.nicolia-english.weebly.com](http://www.nicolia-english.weebly.com)

Campbell County High School - Weekly lesson plans, Assignments & Resources,

Gillette, WY 82716 External Links

(307) 682-7247 Ext: 1355

[cnicolia@ccsd.k12.wy.us](mailto:cnicolia@ccsd.k12.wy.us)

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS  
I believe everyone can treat each other with **mutual** respect by:

* Accepting one another for our similarities and differences
* Listening to others with our ears and minds open, and our mouths closed
* Helping each other learn by not providing distractions
* Abiding by the Golden Rule (don’t say anything negative about another person)

I promise to:

* Do all that I can to help you succeed
* Provide you with challenging, thought-provoking, and engaging instruction
* Provide you with a safe learning environment
* Help you learn from your mistakes and show you how to get better at learning

In addition, it is essential that you come to class prepared each and every day. This means:

* Bring class materials every day
* Focus on classwork
* Use the restroom/get a drink before coming to class
* Put away **personal** electronic devices unless permission is given.

MATERIALS NEEDED

* Required:
  + Paper
  + Writing utensil
  + Book
* Optional:
  + Highlighters, binder, sticky notes

TECHNOLOGY USE & GUIDELINES

This is not a 1:1 technology classroom, so we will be visiting computer labs whenever it is necessary. The use of technology is incorporated in the curriculum, and we will be using online programs to accomplish numerous tasks. Students are to follow guidelines set forth by the teacher as a 21st century digital citizens. Technology is to be used as a means for learning. If the student does not use technology in such a manner, he/she will lose all technology privileges. In addition, students will occasionally be required to use technology outside the classroom.

GRADING/SCALE

Your grade is calculated by dividing the points you earned by the total points possible. Check PowerSchool to keep up on your grades; I do my best to keep grades updated throughout the semester.

98-100 A+

93-97 A

90-92 A-

88-89 B+

83-87 B

80-82 B-

78-79 C+

73-77 C

70-72 C-

68-69 D+

63-67 D

60-62 D-

59 F

ASSIGNMENTS

* Follow MLA formatting for all assignments – see the CCHS Writing Guide for more information.
* All assignments are due within the 6-week period in which it is assigned; after that point, the assignments will not be accepted. However, students may attend ELO or come in after school for extra help from the teacher when scheduled. Then, the assignments will be accepted.
* Late assignments turned in **within** the 6-week grading period will be deducted 10%. Late assignments turned in **after** the 6week grading period (**after attending ELO**) will be deducted 20%.
* All typed assignments will be submitted to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com). Assignments with this requirement will not otherwise be accepted.
  + If you experience technical difficulties, you must send me an email and share the COMPLETED assignment so I can see that you did your work. After talking to me in class the next day, you must STILL submit the assignment for credit. I will help you.
* When you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to obtain your assignments in a timely manner. For an excused absence, you are given two (2) school days to turn in your work. After that point, it is considered late.
  + Weekly lesson plans are available: [www.nicolia-english.weebly.com](http://www.nicolia-english.weebly.com)
  + Handouts can be picked up from the “Handout” bin in class.

NO RED INK- GRAMMAR

We will be using No Red Ink ([www.noredink.com](http://www.noredink.com)) to accomplish our Grammar Units throughout the year. Students will need to accomplish their grammar units mainly on their own time. Students will be given some time during certain class periods to accomplish assigned grammar units; however, students **should not** rely only on class time for grammar work. Due dates will be communicated.

VOCABULARY

Vocabulary will be incorporated into the curriculum. It is the student’s responsibility to prepare for vocab assessments. Assessment dates will be posted on the classroom website, as well in class.

INDEPENDENT READING

The Independent Reading Program is designed to make your reading experience in this class as enjoyable as possible. Ya right, you say – that’s impossible! No, it’s not. Anything is enjoyable when YOU are in control, and YOU get to make as many personal choices as possible. This is your “baby”—YOU have control over WHAT you read, WHEN you read it, and what kind of GRADE you want to get.

Of course, the purpose behind the Independent Reading Program is to improve your reading skills by having you read a ton of good books. Research tells us that the number one way to improve anyone’s reading ability is to read and read and read and read (you get the point). The key is that you get to choose what type of books you read—author and subject are entirely up to you. I have found that once a student finds an author or type of book they like, they are hooked. So, above all else, take the time to find books you will love to read.

Other tidbits:

* You must physically show me the book you are reading so I can write down the author, title, and page numbers; otherwise I will not accept your book for a grade. You can sign up as many books at one time as you want. (You will not be able to sign up books of poetry, short stories, or nonfiction books – they are too hard to do booktalks on).
* Your grade will be based on the number of pages you read each six weeks. You will do booktalks to get credit for the pages you read. Booktalk due dates and the grading scale are attached but will also be posted in the classroom. (Pages DO NOT carry over from one six-week period to the next.)
* If you start a book and don’t like it, please junk it and find a new one. However, you MUST show me the new book before I will accept the book pages for a grade.
* Electronic devices for reading are allowed; however, this is a PRIVILEGE NOT A RIGHT. Any abuse (texting, games, etc.) will result in LOSS of this privilege.
* Booktalks are simple—you just talk about your book to me. However, you must demonstrate that you read and understood your book. You must bring the book with you when you do the booktalk, as well. The booktalk is a TEST—show that you know what you read. Please keep in mind that you can only do one book per booktalk and only one booktalk per week –so plan ahead.
* You must bring your signed up reading book to class everyday (no book = decrease of weekly work ethic grade) as I will give you in-class reading time every period.
* If I discover during the booktalk that you didn’t read all the pages you are trying to get credit for, you will receive a zero for the Independent Reading Grade for the six weeks. Not only are you cheating by being dishonest about the number of pages you actually read, but also you are defeating the purpose of the program, which is to improve your reading skills. (You don’t have to do a booktalk over the ENTIRE book – you can do it over whatever pages you have read.)

Please realize I’m trusting you to read new books that you have NEVER read before; please return that trust with honest choices – you will NOT get credit for pages read from a book you have read before.

HOMEWORK/ READING PAGES DEADLINES

\*\*NO Exceptions! Please do not procrastinate!

Semester One

**Purple (1-4) September 30th November 9th December 18th**

**Gold (5-8) October 1st** **November 10**th **December 17**th

Semester Two

**Purple (1-4) February 12th March 24th May 19th**

**Gold (5-8) February 11th**  **March 25th**  **May 20th**

SIX-WEEK INDEPENDENT READING PAGES SCALE

A+ = 476-500 pages

A = 451-475 pages

A- = 426-450 pages

B+ = 391-425 pages

B = 361-390 pages

B- = 331-360 pages

C+ = 301-330 pages

C = 271-300 pages

C- = 241-270 pages

D+ = 211-240 pages

D = 181-210 pages

D- = 150-180 pages

Partial Credit = >149 pages

SEMESTER CURRICULUM

Below is the Sophomore English Curriculum broken down between Semester One and Semester Two

**Semester One**

* Short Stories/ Figurative Language
* Journaling – Self Reflection
* *Anthem*
* DSPA #1- Literary Analysis
* DSPA #2- Reflective Narrative
* Independent Reading (3 Rounds)
* Grammar- No Red Ink
* Vocabulary – Latin Roots

**Semester Two**

* Rhetoric/ Informational Texts
* *12 Angry Men*
* DSPA #1- Informational Text
* DSPA #2- Persuasive Research Essay
* DSPA #3- Research Speech
* Independent Reading (3 Rounds)
* Grammar- No Red Ink
* Vocabulary- Latin Roots