



Course Information: This course challenges honors students to do college level reading and writing through in depth study of American literature, analysis of non-fiction prose, and extensive essay writing. Students taking this course should be highly motivated to improve analytical thinking and writing skills. All students are expected to take the Advanced Placement test. Summer reading is expected.

[Course Guide](#)

Teacher Information:

Mrs. Marilyn Byrum – marilynbyrum@misdmail.org

Textbook:

- The Language of Composition

Materials:

- iPad and charger – daily
- headphones
- stylus
- notebook paper
- binder
- pencils
- pens (preferably blue or black)
- access to materials for projects
- one box of facial tissue

iPad:

Mansfield ISD has a 1:1 iPad initiative in place. This provides the opportunity for every high school student to have an iPad for instructional use.

Daily Procedure - Close all applications on your iPad upon entering the classroom. You may only have open the apps to be used in class during that specific class period. The opening of any additional app including any gaming, messaging or email feature will result in a disciplinary referral.

BYOD Policy - Mansfield ISD has a BYOD policy in place; however, with access to iPads in the classroom daily, the use of any cellular device is only allowed with permission from the teacher. Having cell phones out in class without permission will result in disciplinary action.

Recommended Apps and Websites - This list includes apps and websites that students will use on a regular basis in class. Additional apps or websites will be used by individual teachers. Click on the title of the app for a link to it in the iTunes catalog. Check out the video overview link under each app for information and a step-by-step guide on how to use it.

- [iTunes U](#)
 - This app is vital for the virtual classroom. Students can search through a wealth of open courses in the online catalog from high school and college campuses worldwide or join your own teacher's class. Public and private courses are available.
 - For the English classroom, each student will have access to a private course designed by his/her teacher. These courses will include information about the class along with materials for completing work. Parents are encouraged to join the course as well so they can follow along with their child.
 - [Video Overview](#)
- [Note Anytime](#)
 - This app allows students to annotate pdf's, take notes on a blank document or annotate pictures. Students can then save their final documents as images, multi-page images or pdf's. Export these pdf's straight to other apps such as email or turn in assignments through My Big Campus.
 - (Students can also use other annotate pdf apps other than this one. We recommend this app because it is a comprehensive program that does more than some expensive apps.)
 - [Video Overview](#)
- [Pages](#)
 - This app is a word processing app (like Microsoft Word). It will allow students to type up their papers. These documents can then be exported as a doc file or pdf to email or submit virtually to their teacher.
 - (Mansfield ISD has purchased this app for students. Make sure you access this app through the Power Up catalog instead of iTunes to avoid paying for it.)
 - [Video Overview](#)
- [Keynote](#)
 - This app is a presentation app (like PowerPoint). Students can make interactive presentations that include text, images, transitions, etc.
 - (Mansfield ISD has purchased this app for students. Make sure you access this app through the Power Up catalog instead of iTunes to avoid paying for it.)
 - [Video Overview](#)
- [iBooks](#)
 - This app is a virtual library or bookcase. Students can house their pdf files within this app for access at any time. Students can also make collections within the bookshelf to keep everything organized. Book find their own home within this app as well. As teachers create their own course iBooks, students will be able to download and house those resources within this app.
 - [Video Overview](#)
- [Showbie](#)
 - Showbie may be accessed by the app or website. Showbie will be the primary way students hand in work and receive feedback/grades.
- [Vocabulary.com](#)
 - This website is used to help students learn teacher-selected vocabulary lists.

Course Calendar/Schedule:

See [Year at a Glance](#).

Grading Percentages:

- Writing (essays, short answer responses) 40%
- Tests (includes projects) 35%
- Other (quizzes with multiplier of 2/daily grades) 25%

Skyward – Students are encouraged to stay on top of their grades. With the iPad, students can easily access the online grade book through the Skyward Student Access app. Click on this link for access to the app in the iTunes catalog.

Semester Exam:

Semester exams count 20% of the grade.

Re-Take Policy:

- Teachers will provide students the opportunity to be successful. In the event students fail to exhibit proficiency on major assessments or tests, they will be encouraged to participate in the re-teaching/re-testing process designed and determined by the teacher.
- Students will be allowed to demonstrate proficiency of learning objectives by means of a re-test. Students will receive their actual grade with the highest grade being a 70.
- Students will have to make arrangements with the teacher to retake or redo a major test/assessment.
- All retakes must be completed prior to the end of each six-week grading period.
- Students are encouraged to go to tutorials.
- Midterm or final exams are not to be included in the retake/retest policy.

Late Work:

Students may be assessed a penalty of no more than 30 points per day for up to one day before a zero may be given for work not turned in on time.

Makeup Work Because of Absence:

- For any class missed, the teacher may assign the student make up work based on the instructional objectives for the subject or course.
- A student will be responsible for obtaining and completing the make up work in a satisfactory manner and students have one for each day absent to make up the work.
- A student who does not make up assigned work within the time allotted by the teacher may receive a grade of zero for the assignment.
- A student will be permitted to make up tests and to turn in projects due in any class missed because of absence.
- Teachers may assign a late penalty to any long-term project in accordance with time lines approved by the principal and previously communicated to students.

Attendance and Tardy Policy

To receive credit in a class, a student must attend at least 90 percent of the days the class is offered.

If you feel you may be in danger of absence failure, see your assigned administrator.

[See 2016-2017 MISD Student Handbook](#) for additional information regarding school policy.

Academic dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated at Mansfield High School.

It is essential that students work through each assignment in the course and take the course assessments independently.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: plagiarism, fabrication of information or citations, submitting the work of another person, allowing another person to substitute for oneself in completing course work or taking a course test, submitting work previously used without informing the instructor and securing written approval, or tampering with computer files and/or academic work of other students.

Academic dishonesty will result in one or more of the following actions:

- Students may receive a zero on the assignment without being able to redo the work; and/or
- Discipline Referral

What is plagiarism? Check out this [video link](#) for details about what constitutes plagiarism.