

**English 11 Course Syllabus**  
**Greg Hurst**  
**Email: [Greg\\_Hurst@asd.wednet.edu](mailto:Greg_Hurst@asd.wednet.edu)**  
**Website: [www.misterhurst.com](http://www.misterhurst.com)**  
**School Phone: 360.618.6300**

Eleventh grade English is a requirement for graduation for both high schools in the Arlington School District. This class meets the eleventh grade English requirement, and is therefore a class that must be passed in order to graduate from high school.

**Course Objectives**

The English language is one of the more complex forms of communication in modern society. To master the language is as difficult a task as there is, and to grasp the basic functions of the language is only slightly less difficult. This course will attempt to foster a deeper understanding of not just the English language, but the world at large as well. We will do that by reading and interpreting a number of texts, expanding our vocabulary and language skills, and successfully meeting the standard in the scholarly paper submission process.

**Materials**

There are a number of items that you will need for this course, not limited to the following:

1. A number of writing utensils (at least one each of green, red, blue, and black pens)
2. Highlighters
3. Paper
4. Sticky notes
5. At least 200 note cards
6. A USB or flash drive
7. A composition book for the scholarly paper
8. A wire-bound notebook for daily activities

**Technology Requirements**

There will be digital submission required for some assignments. You **MUST** have Internet access. If you do not have it at home, please plan accordingly to utilize the school's computers. Students must follow school guidelines for Internet and computer use. Abuse of the technology in my room will result in a loss of privileges, which may prevent students from completing assignments. The removal of privileges may extend throughout the school. Checking grades or email should be done before or after school/class **NOT** during the class period. You do need an email address to sign up for a Moodle account (a portion of the class will be through this online course software) and a flash drive to save your research and papers.

## Class Policies

If you have made it to this class, you have successfully (to a degree) completed at least ten prior years of schooling. You have a very good idea as to what is and isn't acceptable in a classroom. While parents will be informed of your progress, ultimately it is **the student** that is responsible for successfully completing the course. With that in mind, the following statements are a path to success.

1. The scholarly paper is currently a graduation requirement at Arlington High School, and successful submission is a requirement of eleventh grade English. You must successfully meet standard in every facet of the process in order to submit the paper. Failure to do this will result in a grade of "NC" (No Credit) in this course, as well as all future English classes until proper submission standards have been met.
2. Cheating and plagiarizing will not be tolerated in this course. Although the student handbook has specific guidelines as to how these two occurrences are handled, the instructor reserves the right to remove a student from the course and issue a failing grade for either of these two occurrences on any of the major assignments in the course.
3. Attendance is mandatory, and assignments are due on the due date regardless of your attendance in the class. The due date is exactly that, a date on which assignments are **DUE**. In other words, it is the last possible second in which an assignment can be turned in.
4. Printer Pass: You will be given one "Printer Pass" for the entire school year. This pass will buy you an additional 24 hours of time to complete the assignment for NO point penalties. Notice, it's only 24 hours—not until the next class period. Any Friday assignments you choose to use this for must be submitted electronically within 24 hours and a hard copy must be received before 8 a.m. Monday.
5. I have only five class rules, and they are all fairly basic.
  - a. Follow my directions
  - b. Be on time, every day
  - c. Keep hands, feet, and all other objects to yourselves
  - d. No eating, drinking, or chewing gum in class
  - e. No swearing or teasing of other students
6. **NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR POINTS!** You will still be required to do the assignment, but you will forfeit the points associated with it. Assignments are done to collect and practice knowledge; they are submitted to follow procedure. Those students not in

possession of an assignment on the due date, will instead fill out a form detailing why they do not have the assignment.

7. All essays and projects must be accompanied by a **hand-written** first draft, and there must be proof of revision between that and each successive draft. Final drafts will not be scored without a hand-written draft.
8. Final drafts of essays must have met all of the following guidelines:
  - a. Inclusion of hand-written draft
  - b. Proper MLA headings and formatting
  - c. Double-spacing throughout
  - d. Stapled (not paper-clipped, folded, or loose).
  - e. The lines need to be numbered
  - f. The final draft must be submitted when the bell rings

### **Grading**

The traditional grading scale will be in effect for this class. Every student will begin the semester with an “A” and it will be their responsibility to maintain that grade. If a student appears to be approaching a non-passing grade, a parent conference will be scheduled as soon as is possible.

A+ = 100

B = 83-86

C- = 70-72

A = 93-99

B- = 80-82

D+ = 67-69

A- = 90-92

C+ = 77-79

D = 60-66

B+ = 87-89

C = 73-76

Fail = Below 60

### **Parent Communication**

Please feel free to contact me at anytime regarding your child’s performance, materials for the class, or any other matter pertaining to the class. I am more than happy to spend some time with any parent that is taking an active role in their child’s education. I can be reached at the phone number and email at the top of this syllabus. The best way to reach me is via email at [greg\\_hurst@asd.wednet.edu](mailto:greg_hurst@asd.wednet.edu). If you would like to meet in person, I am typically available any day, before or after school, EXCEPT TUESDAYS. We have staff meetings every Tuesday.

### **Class Social Media**

A great deal of information from class can be found online. I have a very active website for week-to-week updates ([www.misterhurst.com](http://www.misterhurst.com)), as well as a Facebook page (Mr. Hurst is My Idol) for daily class updates and questions. Additionally, I often times send homework updates via Twitter (HurstEnglish9 & HurstEnglish10). Lastly, I have posted a number of easily accessible video tutorials on the Misterhurst Channel at YouTube

(<http://www.youtube.com/user/Misterhurst>). Parents are strongly encouraged to take part in all of these activities. In fact, this syllabus can be found on each one of these sites. Are you still with me? I'm just checking, because this year we will also discuss how companies are sneaking things into their "Terms of Use" that most people (including myself) click "I Agree" for without even having read. For example, by signing this syllabus, you agree to pay me a million dollars. If you disagree with that, just write an "X" on the first line for the parent name.

### **Electronic Devices Policy**

Electronic devices will often times be a part of the educational process in my classroom. However, unless directed by me, ALL CELL PHONES AND PORTABLE MUSIC DEVICES MUST BE OFF AND OUT OF SIGHT IN CLASS!!!! If a student has a dire circumstance where a phone must be on, I need to be informed before class begins.

Failure to comply with this rule will result in the following consequences:

- The device will be taken away and will be held until the end of the day.
- The device will be taken away & held until a parent can come in for a formal conference.
- The device will be taken away until the end of the semester.

All of the afore mentioned consequences will be accompanied by a write-up or an office referral.

The course syllabus has been sent home via email, posted to the class website, posted to the class Facebook page, posted to the school's website, and posted to each of the class Twitter accounts. Copies can be printed out in the school library, or requests for printed copies can be made to Mr. Hurst.

By signing this, I am declaring that I have seen the syllabus for Mr. Hurst's class, and that I agree to all of the rules, procedures, and policies therein.

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Student Name (Print)

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Student Signature

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Parent Name (Print)

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Parent Signature

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Parent Phone Number

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Parent Email Address