**Dear Parents and Guardians,**

Welcome to the start of a new and exciting school year! My name is Mr. Lenny Jurado, and I will be your child’s ninth-grade Pre-AP English teacher. This is my fifth year at Coronado after having taught three years at the middle school level. Previous to teaching, I spent 11 years as a newspaper sports writer and copy editor.

Below is my contact information and a generalized syllabus for the 2017-2018 school year.

**School phone: (915) 236-2000**

**Contact:** **lejurado@episd.org** **or via schoology.com**

**Conference period: 7th period**

**Materials Needed:**

Loose-leaf college ruled paper Pencil with good eraser (annotations)

Post-It notes (annotations) Laptop (personal or EPISD-issued)

Highlighters (annotations) Box of tissue

1. Students must be prepared with all materials – supplies, handouts, etc.
2. Spiral paper torn from a notebook will not be accepted; perforated paper from bound notebooks will be allowed IF paper is removed without tears.
3. *Students are required to bring their laptops every day.*

**Course Overview**

The Pre-AP English I course is designed to challenge students to integrate new information and skills into their previous knowledge, then construct academic analyses through inquiry-based study. Target areas include the following:

* Improvements in on reading, language, and analytical skills through close reading and interaction with poetry, prose, and drama.
* Connections among literature, history, and life.
* Study of cultural literacy to bring learning into current situations, ethics, and values.
* Writing progresses analysis, expository and argument styles with proper form and structure of syntax through the study of grammar, vocabulary, the formation of essays and in-text citation (MLA).
* Social skills through discussions and cooperation advanced through group work, presentations, and class involvement create an atmosphere of active, compassionate learners.

Our units are concentrated in the following areas: 1. Beginning the Journey with Fiction and Literary Nonfiction; 2A. Continuing the Journey through Poetry; 2B. Moving Forward with Drama; 3. Using Informational Text; 4. Intentional Persuasion; 5A. Genre Connections; 5B. College and Career Literacy; 6. Inquiring Minds

Meanwhile, the study of the STAAR End of Course assessment, as part of the curriculum, will concentrate on extractions of passages, grammar, editing and revising, and the expository essay.

Below is our reading list. This is not the finalized list, as we are still adapting to the district’s new curriculum. We also will delve into poetry, as well as read numerous nonfiction pieces (e.g. essays, speeches, articles).

Novels/Plays: *Of Mice and Men, The House on Mango Street, Romeo and Juliet*, *Night.*

Short Stories: “Harrison Bergeron”, “The Secret Life of Walter Mitty”, “The Most Dangerous Game,” “The Scarlet Ibis,” “The Odyssey.”

Regarding novels: Because of our in-depth study of literature, it is strongly recommended that students purchase their own copies of the novels (ISBN be provided upon request). While Coronado High School will provide copies of the novels, students are not allowed to mark in these school books. I strongly recommend that students purchase the novels immediately so that the material is available when needed.

**Ethical Practice**

An environment that celebrates academic honesty is essential to the success of any advanced academic program. It is the responsibility of every student, teacher, administrator, and parent associated with Coronado High School to ensure that academic honesty is promoted and maintained. In presenting a code of conduct based on individual integrity and ethics, we aim to reduce the level of unhealthy competition in the school by shifting peer pressure away from cheating and toward ethical behavior. As a matter of personal integrity, it is ultimately the responsibility of the student to ensure that the highest level of academic honesty is maintained at all times.

Academic dishonesty is defined as any behavior that results in the student (or any other student) gaining an unfair academic advantage. These include, but are not limited to:

plagiarism, unauthorized collusion, aiding in another student’s academic dishonesty, fabrication of data, stealing research, essays, examinations, falsifying academic records or grades, copying the work (any work or part of) of another student, allowing your work (any work or part of) to be copied, duplication of work and/or research submitted for different assignments, possessing unauthorized material during assessments, tests, quizzes, OR the use or attempted use of unauthorized material during examinations. Academic dishonesty can also include any other behavior that gains an unfair advantage for a student or that affects the results of another student. Collusion between students will result in all students involved receiving a “0” on the assignment. EPISD requires that the code “CH” be placed in the grade book for any form of cheating

Note: Students will be required to submit some major essays and assignments to turnitin.com to check for originality and detect plagiarism. PLAGIARISM IS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED.

Students can access “Free WiFi sites in El Paso” [Texas] from a link on the episd.org website under the ‘Resource’ tab or link: <https://www.episd.org/21/freewifi.php>

**Assignments**

Course assignments will include the following: reading and writing for homework, in-class reading, vocabulary quizzes, grammar exercises, imitation (mimic-writing) exercises, note-taking, collaborative writing, in-class timed writing responses (e.g. short answer responses), poetry writing/analysis, and presentations/projects.

**Late work / Redos**

Late work will not be accepted beyond **two school days**; students will receive ***15 points off each day an assignment is late***. If students are going to be absent due to a school-related activity, they are encouraged to complete the assignment beforehand or find an alternative method to have the assignment turned in on time. Students are given one day for makeup work for each day of absence. **If a student has an unexcused absence, it must be corrected to an excused absence through the attendance office as per EPISD policy. If it is not corrected, grading for the assignment will begin at 70 percent of the grade earned (Example: If the student receives a 92, then the grade will be recorded as a 62).**

Students can redo assignments (maximum 70 points as “mastery”) **within three days** after a formal request has been made (late-point deductions will still apply to redos). A “Redo Request Form” must be completed and returned to Mr. Jurado **within one day of grade posting/notification**, so the student and Mr. Jurado can make accommodations for the redo. Mr. Jurado also can modify the assignment.

\*\*\*Mr. Jurado does **NOT** offer extra credit for Pre-AP\*\*\*

**Grading Rubric**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Daily Work | 50% |
| Tests / Projects | 25% |
| Quizzes | 15% |
| 9-weeks Test | 10% |

 **Classroom expectations**

1. Students must have their Coronado ID’s on their person at all times and must follow appropriate dress code (this is a school-wide mandate).
2. Students are expected to bring materials and classwork daily and to arrive on time. Students will be marked absent if they arrive more than 10 minutes late.
3. Usage of electronic devices is prohibited unless approved by teacher for instructional purposes only. Devices confiscated by the classroom teacher will be turned in to security.

**Tutoring**

Fall Semester: 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays Spring Semester: TBD

Tutoring may be mandated depending on a student’s academic status.

**Closing Statement:** I look forward to expanding your child’s writing and reading skills by fostering the truth that EVERYONE has the ability to succeed!

**IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT *ALL* THE INFORMATION BELOW IS COMPLETED.**

**THANK YOU.**

PRINTED STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian information**

Parent/Guardian Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email ***(required)***:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2nd Parent/Guardian Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Syllabus agreement**

We have reviewed the course syllabus for Mr. Jurado’s English class, and we are willing/excited/elated to comply with its guidelines.

Parent/Guardian Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_