

Dr. Ware's English IV 2025-2026

Please read the following information, sign the acknowledgement sheet, and return to Dr. Ware/Mr. Farris.

Materials needed:

- No. 2 Pencil
- Blue or black pens
- Notebook (either spiral or composition)

Introduction:

This is the final English course before graduation. In light of that, this course will be structured to both model and prepare students for after-high-school careers and activities. This means that students are asked to be responsible for their academic well-being. While I do not expect all students upon graduation to go home and read Shakespeare for fun, I do want each student to be capable of doing what is necessary to help themselves out in whatever they choose to go into after graduation, whether it is the military, college, or the workforce. Skills that will be addressed this year include:

- Reading skills
- Usage of internet
- Grammar
- Analytical thinking
- Working within a group
- Communication
- Public speaking
- Completion of tasks as an individual
- Etiquette for varying situations
- Personal responsibility

This is a senior class, and as such, students will be expected to handle a more rigorous pace and more in-depth assignments. This class will have more of a focus on literary analysis and collegiate level discussion. Outside reading and writing will be common. There will also be long term projects that students will have to keep up with. Do your best to not fall behind on reading and work.

Pacing for this semester:

Below is an intended pacing guide to help give an idea on both the order and time for units that also includes skills that will be focused on in each unit. Depending on the weather or the natural way the semester goes, there may need to be alterations to this pacing guide. Changes will only be made in the best interest of what students need (some units or parts of units may take longer to get through than others). I will let students know if this happens, but I encourage students or parents to ask questions if needed on this. The last week of the semester is usually left for review before the final.

Unit 1: - Surviving the World Beyond High School - 3 Weeks

"I CAN" STATEMENTS:

- I can write professional, grammatically correct e-mails and business letters
- I can write grammatically correct college and job applications

- I can conduct professional interviews
- I can dress professionally
- Resume Writing
- Job Searches

Unit 2: - 3 Weeks - Shop Craft for Soul Craft, An Inquiry into the Value of Work -
Matthew Crawford

“I CAN” STATEMENTS:

- I can read novels, literary nonfiction, stories, plays, and poetry
- I can describe how writers took interest in human life and the individual person.
- I can explain how literary forms and devices reflect the author’s philosophical, aesthetic, or religious views.

Unit 3: 3 Weeks - Frankenstein - Mary Shelley

“I CAN” STATEMENTS:

- I can read literary and philosophical works from the seventeenth century, with particular attention to questions of reason and emotion.
- I can explain the idea of reading literature as a quest—for truth, for beauty, and for understanding.
- I can analyze two philosophical works of the seventeenth century for their treatment of an idea related to human reason.
- I can write literary and philosophical analyses with a focus on clarity and precision of expression.
- I can conduct research, online and in libraries, on a particular seventeenth-century author, work, or idea.
- I can analyze the relationship between reason and emotion as illustrated in literature of the seventeenth century.
- I can explain the use of satire as a technique to reveal authorial intent.

Unit 4: 3 Weeks

The Quiet Man - Maurice Walsh; A&P - by John Updike; The Excitement Begins
by Leslee Becker

“I CAN” STATEMENTS:

- I can read works of the twentieth century, focusing on the earlier decades.
- I can consider aspects of modernism (such as anxiety) in their historical context.
- I can explain both the breakdown and affirmation of form and meaning in modernist literature.
- I can analyze dystopian literature, considering the problems inherent in fashioning a perfect person or society.
- I can explain how poems in this unit reflect on poetry itself and its possibilities.
- I can examine the implications of modern versions of classical works.
- I can identify and explain the musical allusions and their meanings in twentieth-century poetic works in seminars.
- I can pursue focused questions in depth over the course of one or two class sessions.
- I can explain absurdist and existential philosophy as it applies to literature and theatre.

GOOGLE CLASSROOM:

This class will be using Google Classroom. Students have a class code located on the top right of the board. They may log in using their Haywood County G-mail account (_____@students.haywood.k12.nc.us). There is an app that can be downloaded on phones. I will post pdf versions of stories we are doing as I have them available for work and notice dates, so students should always be able to keep up with what is happening in class, even when absent. I know that internet access may not always be easy. We have computers in the library that may be accessed before and after school.

GRADING SCALE:

Each Six-weeks:

Major Grade (Tests, Projects)	35%
Minor Grade (Classwork, Homework)	55%
CommonLit	10%

Final Grade:

1 st Six-weeks	25%
2 nd Six-weeks	25%
3rd Six-weeks	25%
Final Exam	25%

Detailed explanation of grades:

Classwork: Normally, these will count as one Minor Grade, but may count more depending on the amount of time expected for the assignment to be completed. Most of these assignments will include questions, quick evaluations, worksheets, short writings, and other short assignments.

Homework: Normally, these will count as one Minor Grade, but may count more depending on the amount of time expected or the importance of the assignment. Most of the time for this class, homework will actually be classwork that has been given the night to finish if needed.

Projects: These are major grades that are extended assignments that will be worked on over a period of time. These will often be considered a part of the assessment of the unit involved. Projects will focus on the ability of students to create a product of some sort to show how they understand the selections covered.

Tests: These are major grades that will assess student knowledge in various forms. The most common forms will be multiple choice, short answer, and essay.

CommonLit: Each week (starting after the second week of the semester), students will be assigned an article on CommonLit.com to read and take a quiz on. The time each week for the work will be homework that week, but any time a student has time, he or she may work on this. I understand that some students may have HCC classes during the day, but it is the student's responsibility to log in and complete it by Friday of the week. If there are issues with internet availability out of the class or anything else that would interfere with the completion of this, I encourage students to talk to me to see if something can be worked out.

Make-up work: The policy set by Haywood County Schools will be followed. It is a student's responsibility to get any work missed when he or she returns to school. The only reminder of missed work will be on tests. Any tests that have not at least been discussed on the make-up plan within two weeks of returning to school will be given a grade of 0. It is the student's job to make sure that he or she keeping up with his or her work.

Late work: Assignments are expected to be turned in when they are due. If due at the beginning of class, they need to be turned in when asked for, they are late. Assignments will incur a 10-point penalty per day late, up to 5 days late. After 5 days, work will no longer be accepted and will receive a 0.

Extra credit: There are times when extra credit will be given on certain assignments throughout the year, but rarely will there be any extra assignments that are considered extra credit. These assignments, when offered, only amount to an extra 5-10 points on a major grade. It is important to know that the work in this class is important to the grade, and students need to keep up with it throughout the year. Requested extra credit will not be given. I encourage students to pay attention to the "Communication" section of the syllabus if they feel concerned about this.

Expectations/Punishments:

This is the last required English in high school, and as such, I hope not to have to deal with bad behavior at this point. You have been in school long enough to know how you should act and when. If the hope and the goal of being closer to finishing the required English courses in high school are not enough motivation to not getting in trouble, then students will be sent to the office. There is too much to do this year, trying to prepare for the end-of-the-year tests and for next year than to deal with disruptions in the classroom. There is a difference between a quick remark and creating a disturbance. If further explanation is needed, feel free to contact me. Colleges and jobs don't deal with misbehavior; usually

students are either kicked out of classes or employment is terminated. People are expected to come in and know how to act and what to do. For that reason, I do not feel the need to list a lot of rules except for this: ACT IN A PROFESSIONAL MANOR AND ALL IS TAKEN CARE OF.

Cell Phone Usage: Cell phones can be a great tool when used to answer questions, to read, or contact people when necessary. They, however, do become a hindrance to education when they are used as a distraction. There will be times throughout a normal class period that a student may need to look up how to spell something or the definition of something. When used in this manner, I have no problem. My issues come when students text or attempt to bypass work that is assigned my cell phone use. There will be times when I will say all cell phones need to be up (for testing or attention purposes). During those times, if a phone is being used, I will ask the student to place the phone in their backpack or on the front desk. They may pick the phone up at the end of the period with no consequences. If there is a problem with that option, then I will either take the phone and write a referral or send the student to the office, depending on the circumstances. If an emergency happens and someone needs to use his or her phone, then in most cases, I have no problem as long as I am notified prior to the use and it doesn't become a habit.

Food and Drink: I do not mind if you bring food or drink into the classroom as long as it is not a distraction. If you make a mess, it is your job to clean it up.

Communication:

Both students and parents are encouraged to discuss any questions, confusions, or concerns with me. If there are problems, please do not wait for months to let me know. Otherwise, I can't do anything about them. I am available both before school and after school for meetings. Conferences may be arranged through the guidance office. Please call to set an appointment. For known extended absence from the class, I encourage students to keep me in the loop on what is going on. While I do not need an email for every day a student misses, if a student is going to be gone for more than two days and I know about it, I can often help give advice on what to do that is necessary to not fall behind, while being able to work out what usually is a less stressful way to make up work. Dr. Ware's email address is mware@haywood.k12.nc.us, Mr. Farris' email address is bfarris@haywood.k12.nc.us. Please feel free to contact us through this anytime; we will do our best to check this email at least once a day (understandably, we may not be able to do this every Saturday or Sunday). Our planning period is 3rd period this semester, so please be understanding that it may be later in the day or the next day before we can respond.

Ware Acknowledgement Card

Student Name (print): _____ Class _____
Period: _____

Parent/ Guardian Name
(print): _____

Parent signature acknowledging that you have read the information sheet and understand the expectations and responsibilities of students in this class (please feel free contact me if you have any questions before signing:

Any additional information I should know about your student (please use back if needed):