

# English 12 Syllabus

Instructor: Ms. Carrie Becker Fishman  
Room 110  
Voicemail: 961-2880 ext. 3715  
E-Mail: [cfishman@fbusd.us](mailto:cfishman@fbusd.us)

## Overview

This class is designed to prepare students for choosing, researching, writing, and presenting a successful senior project; and to ensure students have the communication skills needed to succeed in the world beyond.

This course will be primarily project-based with a strong emphasis on reading and writing. It will cover the following specific skills:

- Research and organization
- Technology
- Vocabulary
- Practical writing
- Career preparation
- Effective presentation

Students will read a variety of informational and fictional texts. The core reading list will include (but is not limited to) the following texts:

1984 by George Orwell  
Brave New World by Aldous Huxley  
Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury  
The Stranger by Albert Camus  
Siddhartha by Hermann Hesse

Extra-textual materials such as poems, short stories, articles, films and supplementary materials

All content is standards-based. The complete California English-Language Arts Standards can be found online at [www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/engmain.asp](http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/engmain.asp).

## Grading

Students are expected to be active learners: they should use critical thinking, participate in class discussions, complete daily work in class, and turn in assignments on time. A standard grading scale will be used. Each of the following will be assigned a total points value as the year progresses:

- Classwork
- Homework
- Essays
- Projects and Presentations
- Tests/Quizzes

Final grades will be based on total points accumulated. Grades will be posted online regularly and printouts will be posted near the end of each grading period. Grades can also be checked online by clicking on the “ABI” link at [www.fbusd.us](http://www.fbusd.us).

The English Department does not accept late work except in the case of excused absences, so assignments must be turned in on time. If there are extreme circumstances, students should confer with me to make arrangements *before* the assignment is due. In general, written homework will be assigned throughout the week and collected on Mondays. Students will *often* be required to read at home and should have a quiet place to do so. Homework assigned will be posted on the class website ([www.fbhsd.us](http://www.fbhsd.us)>Fort Bragg High School>Teacher Web Pages>Fishman, Carrie).

## *Guidelines and Expectations*

We are a community of learners with a common goal – to learn and grow together. It is essential to a community atmosphere that all members feel safe and secure. To that end, all students are expected to treat everyone in the classroom, and the space itself, with respect and care. Offensive, hurtful, or inappropriate language or behavior will not be tolerated. In addition, each student must:

- be quiet when myself or another student is addressing the class
- raise his/her hand to contribute unless indicated otherwise by me
- be responsible for our shared space—always throw away or recycle any trash before leaving

Should these guidelines be violated, depending on to what degree, you will first hear a verbal correction from me. Progressive violations will be handled by a referral, a call home, parent-administration conferencing, and finally suspension and expulsion. Severe disruptions will result in students being immediately sent to the office.

All school policies will also be enforced.

- Appropriate dress is required at all times
- Cell phones are *always* to remain off and invisible in class (or will be confiscated)
- MP3 players are *not allowed on campus* at any time

In the case of an excused absence, students are responsible for obtaining and completing missing work (including notes). Assignments, notes, warm-ups, and handouts are available in a binder in the back of the room, and online. I am always available to help students one-on-one if necessary.

Students will be marked tardy if they are not in their assigned seats and prepared to begin when the bell rings. 5 tardies = referral and detention; 10 tardies = Saturday school

## *Materials*

You are required to bring the following to class:

- the text we are reading
- a binder/folder for this class, which may be periodically checked for organization and thoroughness (points will be appropriately awarded)
- pens/pencils
- a positive attitude

If you have a problem obtaining these materials, please see me.

Dear Student,

These guidelines were created to provide you with a comfortable and effective learning environment.

Please review this syllabus with your parent/guardian, then sign and return this page for 10 points. Retain the syllabus in your notebook for your future information.

**Student:** I have reviewed and understand the syllabus for English 12. I know that breaking the rules of the class and failing to meet expectations will result in disciplinary action. I understand that if I have any questions or concerns, I am welcome to call or email Ms. Fishman to discuss them.

Student Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Parent/Guardian:** My son/daughter has reviewed the classroom expectations, rules, and consequences with me. I understand and will support them.

Parent/Guardian Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Rated “R” Movies:** Occasionally, we may view scenes from movies that are rated “R” if they are pertinent to a text that we are reading or topic of discussion and learning. I will never show films or scenes that portray or use gratuitous sex, violence, or profanity. Please check the box below and initial if you do *not* want your son/daughter to view scenes from rated “R” films.

I do *not* want my son/daughter to view scenes from rated “R” films. \_\_\_\_\_  
initial here