



Chandler Unified School District

ENG415A Honors Science and Technical Writing
SY 2023-24



Course Overview

Course Description

Prepares students to write research papers and/or technical reports. Emphasizes researching (primary and secondary sources), organizing (material, thoughts, and arguments), and writing in a persuasive or technical style. The course is offered for dual credit English ENG 111. The curriculum for AP, DE, and IB is not determined by Chandler Unified School District and may contain mature content.

AP/IB/Dual Enrollment

Offered for Dual Enrollment through CGCC if prerequisites are met.

Prerequisite/Fee(s)

No

Course Materials

Charged Laptop
Loose-leaf paper (College-Ruled)
Set of highlighters
Pencils
Pens (blue or black ink only)
Index cards (for presentations)

Adopted Resource(s)

Writing in the Sciences, Penrose et al. (Longman)

**An asterisk will indicate a resource containing sexually explicit materials per legislative definitions. CUSD has determined that all resources listed above are of exceptional educational value.*

Site and Faculty Information

School Name and Address:

Hamilton High School, 3700 S Arizona Ave, Chandler, AZ 85248

Building Principal:

Michael Delatorre
Delatorre.Michael@cUSD80.com

Teacher:

Alexandra Czekaj BA Secondary Education & MA English Education
Czekaj.Alexandra@cUSD80.com

Office hours: Monday & Wednesday 2:14 - 2:45

Course Description

This class is designed for students who are pursuing careers in science, technology, business, engineering, math, or the health sciences. We will refer to the kind of writing and reading we will pursue in this class as "writing and reading for the STEM disciplines." Students have the opportunity to earn ENG 111 credit through dual enrollment at Chandler-Gilbert Community College. We also will be adhering to the State standards for a Senior English class.

Course Access

This course is taught in person at Hamilton High School. Students will have access to the curriculum and instruction in the classroom. Google Classroom is the primary location for students to access material when absent from classes taught in person.

Help

Academic Support

- Contact the teacher to schedule an appointment during office hours
- [Ed Tech](#) support for students, parents/guardians, and community link (cusd80.com/Page/45109)

Mental Health Support

- CUSD mental health support cusd80.com/Domain/10528 or 480-573-8808 (talk or text)
- Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: 9-8-8 hotline
- 24-hour Crisis Line Talk: 602-222-9444, Text: 741-741

Student Conduct, Success, and Responsibilities

Student Handbook

Students must follow the policies and procedures established in the Student Handbook. Copies of the handbook can be found at cusd80.com/handbooks. Printed copies will be provided upon request.

Student Responsibilities

Cell Phone Policy:

Upon entering the classroom, students are required to surrender their phones to the designated hanging phone caddy on the wall adjacent to the instructor's desk. For those who wish to charge their phones, outlets are conveniently located near the caddy. Phones will be securely stored in the caddy until the conclusion of the class period.

Restroom Policy:

Students are required to seek permission prior to leaving the classroom to use the restroom. Kindly avoid making inquiries during direct instructional moments and instead, await an opportune time. It is imperative to note that only a maximum of two students are permitted to use the restroom simultaneously, and they must utilize the designated orange restroom pass displayed on the wall.

Plagiarism and Cheating Policy:

Definition from Hamilton High School Student Handbook: "Copying the work of another person (student OR author) and submitting it as your own, obtaining unauthorized or undocumented material from the Internet or other sources, or securing teacher materials or work in a dishonest or unauthorized way are all considered cheating." Academic papers and essays are required to be submitted through Turnitin.com, a widely recognized secondary and collegiate plagiarism detection tool, prior to acceptance by the instructor. The guidelines for submission will be communicated during class sessions. Additionally, students are advised against unilaterally initiating group work; instead, opportunities for collaborative efforts will be facilitated by the teacher, who will notify students of appropriate instances for collaboration.

***Using an assignment you previously submitted for another class/course is considered self-plagiarism.
You must write and submit new material for each assignment***

Consequences of Plagiarism:

- **First Offense:** A zero on the assignment, a phone call or email to a parent/guardian, and referral to the alpha administrator.
- **Second Offense:** A zero on the assignment, a referral to administration, a phone call or email to the parent/guardian, and three days out of school suspension.
- **Third Offense:** A zero on the assignment, a phone call or email to the parent/guardian, and a nine-day suspension.
- **Fourth Offense:** Mandates being dropped from the class with an "F" along with consideration for alternative placement.

Artificial Intelligence (AI):

Using artificial intelligence (AI) to complete any class assignments is considered plagiarism and is strictly prohibited in the classroom. Students must demonstrate their knowledge, understanding, and critical thinking skills in completing their assignments. **If any student is found to be using AI technology to generate or complete their assignments, severe consequences will be imposed. Such consequences include receiving a grade of 0 on the assignment and a referral to the student's assigned alpha administrator.** The use of AI undermines the academic integrity of the educational process and deprives students of the opportunity to develop and showcase their individual abilities. Therefore, it is imperative that students refrain from utilizing AI tools to complete their class assignments and instead focus on genuine engagement and learning.

Technology Expectations:

- Your device will be available for use every day in class.
- Your device will be fully charged and ready for class use.
- Your device will only be in use when instructed by the teacher; otherwise, it is to remain closed.

Misuse of Technology:

During class, students are expected to be on task and only use their technology to assist learning as directed by the teacher. Students who are caught watching videos, playing games, or using their computer in *ANY* way that is not conducive to a learning environment, will be warned the first time and receive increasing disciplinary actions for each occurrence. Disciplinary actions may include detention before or after school or during lunch, revocation of technology privileges during class (must complete hard copies of assignments), disciplinary referrals, etc.

Behavior Expectations:

Respect and Courtesy: Show respect to your peers, teachers, and staff at all times. Use polite language and maintain a positive and supportive environment in the classroom.

Punctuality: Arrive on time for all classes and activities. Tardiness disrupts the learning process for everyone.

- If a student accumulates 5 tardies, they will be assigned Saturday school.

Active Participation: Engage actively in class discussions and activities. Your active participation contributes to a dynamic and enriching learning environment.

Preparedness: Come to class with all necessary materials, including charged laptops, textbooks, notebooks, etc.

Classroom Environment: Maintain a clean and organized workspace. Respect school property and help keep the classroom tidy.

Follow Instructions: Listen carefully to instructions given by the teacher and follow them promptly and accurately.

Conflict Resolution: Address any conflicts or concerns with respect and maturity. If an issue arises, communicate with the teacher or school administration appropriately.

Consequences for Negative Behavior

1. Verbal Warning: The student will receive a verbal warning from the teacher, reminding them of the behavior expectation they are not meeting.
2. Parent/Guardian Contact: The teacher will inform the student's parent/guardian about the behavior concern, seeking their support and involvement in resolving the issue.
3. Referral to Administration: The teacher will write and submit a referral to the student's administrator and the consequences will match the severity of the offense.

*Note: Depending on the severity of the issue, a referral may be written and submitted to the administrator immediately.

Late Work

Printed Homework Assignments: Printed homework assignments are due at the beginning of each class period. You will place it in the correctly labeled period drawer in the red drawer tower in front of the class. If you cannot print it at home, print it prior to class in the library.

Google Classroom Homework Assignments: Most Google Classroom assignments are due before 11:59 pm on the due date. Please be sure to check each assignment for its specific date/time that it is due.

Excused Absences: Students are allotted one class period for each day of absence to submit homework assigned during the period of their absence. It remains the sole responsibility of the student to obtain all missed coursework due to absences. In-class daily assignments submitted after the deadline are typically ineligible for credit, though reduced credit may be considered in cases of extenuating circumstances. Students are encouraged to approach me directly to discuss such situations.

When submitting belated assignments for which an excused absence or a prearranged extension was granted on Google Classroom, kindly provide a comment in the designated private comment section of the respective assignment upon its online submission

Point Deduction for Late Work:

- For each day an assignment is overdue, a penalty of 10% will be deducted from the original score.
- The maximum deduction allowed for late submissions is 50%.
- If an assignment remains overdue for five or more days, it will reach a score of 0 and will no longer be accepted.

Major Assignments: Students are provided with advance notice of due dates for significant assignments, including papers and projects. In the event of a student's absence on the day a major assignment is due, it is their responsibility to make arrangements to submit the work by the designated deadline. It should be emphasized that major assignments must be turned in on the specified date regardless of the student's absence. In cases where a student anticipates their absence due to planned events (e.g., field trip, college visitation), it is essential for them to establish specific arrangements with the teacher BEFORE the scheduled absence.

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE TURNED IN FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF SENIOR ENGLISH

NOTE: Major assignments more than five days late will not be accepted pending a student/teacher/administrator meeting.

Missed Timed Writings, Tests, and Quizzes Due to Absence: Late or missed timed writings, tests, and quizzes cannot be accommodated during regular class hours. Instead, students are required to arrange a predetermined date with the instructor to complete any outstanding assessments. This can be done either during conference period or after school hours during office hours. It is essential to adhere to the provided timeframe of ONE CALENDAR WEEK for completing makeup activities.

Please be advised that there will be no individual reminders issued by the instructor concerning makeup testing. It is the student's responsibility to proactively monitor the calendar for any updates or changes to the schedule.

Assessments and Assignments

Students will complete assessments during each unit of study to assess their understanding. Students will complete the CUSD Common Final at the end of the first and second semesters. The Common Final will count for 20% of the student's final semester grade in grades 9-12 and 10% in grades 7-8 (some exceptions may apply at the Junior High level). Common finals will be in ELA, Math, Science, Social Science, and World Language.

Final exams will be given during the CUSD Jr High/High School Early Dismissal days in December and May, as identified on the [District Calendar](#).

If students are requested to participate in a survey, the survey questions will be provided to parents/guardians seven days before student contact.

Grading

Grade Percentage

A	B	C	D	F
90% - 100%	80% - 89%	70% - 79%	60% - 69%	<60%

Quarter Grades

Grades are weighted by category:

Minor Assignments: 35% (quizzes, homework, academic journals, etc.)

Major Assignments: 65% (tests, presentations, essays, etc.)

You will be informed prior to the assignment if it is a major or minor assignment.

Semester Grades

Semester grades are calculated using 80/20: A combination of the two quarters accounts for 80% of the semester grade and the final exam accounts for the remaining 20%.

Units of Study and Selected Novels

- College Essay
- Career Unit
- Science Fiction Genre & Self Selected Science Fiction Novel
- Henrietta Lacks* & Ethics
- Shark Tank Unit
- The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot

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Parents/Guardians should indicate if they "Acknowledge" or have a "Potential Conflict" with their student's participation in the following units by checking the appropriate box for each unit of study listed. Students cannot opt out of a standards-based unit. Marking "Potential Conflict" will prompt the teacher to make contact regarding assignment alternatives.

Unit of Study	Acknowledge	Potential Conflict
College Essay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Career Unit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Science Fiction Genre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Henrietta Lacks* & Ethics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shark Tank Unit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Novel	Acknowledge	Potential Conflict
Self-selected Science Fiction book	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Parent/Guardian

Acknowledgment

By signing and returning this form, the parent/guardian acknowledges they have reviewed the resources and units of the study included in the syllabus.

- ☐ As the parent/guardian, I understand that I may contact the teacher if I have questions about the resources, content, or units of study.
- ☐ As the parent/guardian, I understand I can check my student's grades in Infinite Campus anytime during the school year.

Student Name (printed)

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Name (printed)

Parent Signature

Date

Please return this page to your student's teacher