

**English III Honors Syllabus and Course Expectations**  
**The Boca Ciega High School**  
**Ms. Erasmus - Room 4-104**

**BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS:**

1. Respect for each other
2. Integrity
3. Personal responsibility in all matters

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. Assignment submission follows the corresponding rubric; if the assignment warrants a hard copy, it will be submitted in the tray for that period number.
2. Late work receives a one-letter-grade reduction for each day it is late.
3. **MAJOR PROJECTS NOT TURNED IN ON THE DUE DATE RECEIVE A ZERO!**
4. Absent students are responsible for finding out what work they missed. **MOST ASSIGNMENTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PRINTING OUT THROUGH CANVAS, the BCHS Website, or Portal.**
5. Students are responsible to keep up with work and due dates as they are always available on the board, orally in the classroom, online, and on various “calendars” that are provided in class.

**MATERIALS**

1. 2-inch 3-ring AVID Binder (same as one for all other classes)
2. Supply of college-ruled lined paper to be kept in the vocabulary section of your binder

**GRADING POLICY:** On a point system as follows:

1. A **PROFESSIONALISM/CITIZENSHIP** grade (see reverse) will be given each quarter. The points for this will be amassed based on respect, timeliness, communication, personal responsibility, and appropriate behavior. Total possible points for this are 100 points per quarter.
2. The **AVID BINDER** is your life! It counts as 20% of each quarter’s grade. It will typically be checked/graded at the end of each unit. The **BINDER** sections for this course are:
  - a. **VOCABULARY** – This includes the vocabulary lists, sentences – on college-rule lined paper, and the bellwork vocabulary exercises.
  - b. **HANDOUTS/NOTES** – This will include project rubrics, informational documents, and the signed syllabus as well as any Focused Notes taken in this class and pre-printed note sets distributed in class (like the Literacy Cheat Sheet).
  - c. **GRADED WORK** – This includes any assignments that are returned to you after they have been graded. This is also the section where you will keep your **Scales Logs** for each unit.
3. Various **REFLECTIONS, CLASSWORK, and GROUP ACTIVITIES** will be assigned throughout the semester. These are typically graded on a 10-25 point scale. There may be films/film clips relevant to the course shown throughout the course; these include higher-level questions worth 40-60 points depending on the depth of the film.
4. The **BELLWORK** for this course will be a series of vocabulary development skills. Bellwork is completed within the first ten (10) minutes of each class in the **VOCABULARY** section of your **BINDER** (see above). **Vocabulary assessments will take place after each unit to show mastery of that unit’s vocabulary.**
5. **ASSESSMENTS** will be given at the end of each unit. Except for the midterm and the final, all assessments will be non-traditional. Most will be projects that include a variety of writing skills. Project-based assessments are 100-250 points.

# Professionalism/Citizenship Expectations

*Ms. Erazmus – English III Honors*

Dear Parents/Guardians:

In addition to covering all the standards required for the study of the English language, I am including in the curriculum elements regarding the development of student behaviors that will help them to become contributing members of society. This includes, as stated in the rubric, expectations of “respect, timeliness, communication, personal responsibility, and appropriate behavior.” The following delineates some of what I am attempting to help students to learn:

**Respect:** Students will be encouraged to respect themselves, their peers, and their teachers. Students will have opportunities to learn that respect engenders respect and enhances communication. This includes using appropriate language in class, following directions, and being quiet, polite audiences when the teacher or their peers are giving any kind of presentation.

**Timeliness:** Students will be taught that being on time to class as well as turning in assignments on time shows that they care about what they are doing and have an interest in the quality of their work.

**Communication:** In our fast-paced, technological society, communication is the key to success! Students will be taught that in both written and spoken communication, they must be clear, precise, and respectful. This includes refraining from using foul language toward teachers OR one another, using a respectful tone of voice, and choosing the appropriate time and place for particular conversations. Essential to this component is also the skill of listening: to directions, to what someone is actually saying without jumping to conclusions, and to how they come across in their own communications.

**Personal Responsibility:** It is very important that students be able to take responsibility for the decisions they make and the actions they do. Much time is saved when students accept that they may have done something they shouldn't have and if they have questions about it, that there are appropriate times and places to address those issues (see communication section).

**Appropriate Behavior:** Students will learn to act in an appropriate manner for a school campus. This includes refraining from the use of profanity, listening to and following directions without arguing, and treating their peers gently, not engaging in any violent behavior – even in “fun”.

The last challenge with which I would like your help is the students' use of cell phones in class. **Students are not to make or receive calls during class time**, nor are they to be **playing games, texting, or listening to music** on their cell phones during class. This is essential for the smooth running of a class, for the aforementioned lessons to be learned, and for the students to be aware of what is happening in class so that they can achieve academic success.

Thank you for your support,

*Ms. Lisa Erazmus*

We, the undersigned, have read and understood the above expectations for Ms. Erazmus' English classes.

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*Parent/Guardian signature*

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*Student signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*