

# AGS Pre-AP English II Syllabus

## “World Studies” 2019-2020

### a world without borders



*“We have not even to risk the adventure alone, for the heroes of all time have gone before us. The labyrinth is thoroughly known...and where we had thought to be alone, we will be with all the world.” - Joseph Campbell*

**Course Title:** Pre-AP English II, 1023H1  
**Instructor:** Stacy Allen Webster  
**Eng II Remind Texts:** Text @agseng2pap to 81010

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**All 10<sup>th</sup> grade Remind:** @allags10th to 81010

<b>Room Number:</b> 172	<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.thewebsterweb.com">www.thewebsterweb.com</a> (but use Blend!)
<b>Conference/Planning Periods:</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> 9:00-10:30 a.m. (Please email for appointment.)	<b>Tutorials:</b> Wednesday after school: 4:25 - 5:30 p.m.; FIT; Friday before school (if requested): 8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

**Course Description:** In Pre-AP English II, students develop skills in reading, writing, researching, speaking, listening, and interpreting through a close study of world literature, philosophy, and the humanities. Resources and texts are selected to enhance students’ understanding of the world regions and time periods concurrently taught in the World History course. The “World Studies” co-disciplinary approach allows us to integrate the disciplines of English and history so that students better comprehend the complexities of both. While students earn separate grades for English and Social Studies, several interdisciplinary projects, presentations, and writing grades will count toward the average in both classes. As an AGS (Academy for Global Studies) course, several of our projects, texts, research assignments, and Idea Books will draw interdisciplinary and thematic connections to Chemistry, Math, Global Languages, service-learning and learning expeditions.

**How does this class differ from other English classes at Austin High?**

ALL sophomores at Austin High School focus on world or multicultural literature, and all sophomores hone writing skills in a variety of modes including argumentation, reflection, expository writing, literary analysis, and creative writing. Success in this course (as in all pre-AP courses) requires self-motivation, curiosity, diligence, and a willingness to broaden horizons. With the World Studies model (ELA/Social Studies combo units/projects), several novels and plays we read are explored at the same time that the World History class focuses on historical or cultural events that impacted (or were impacted by) that text. In AGS, we also highlight connections to global languages and the universal languages of math and science. This course develops the attributes of an ISSN (International Studies Schools Network) graduate; ISSN graduates are ready for college, have the knowledge required in a global era, are skilled for success in a global environment, and are connected to the world.

**Problem-based Learning:**

AGS emphasizes learning through involvement. You will write papers and take exams like students in other pre-AP classes, but many of the assignments in the class are long-term projects that involve planning, collaboration, time-management, innovation, perseverance, and long-term vision. Because many assignments are self-paced, it’s imperative that you develop an organizational system. Course calendars and BLEND updates will be provided, but keep a detailed agenda or to-do list on your own, as well. In addition to unit projects based on waste management and global problem-solving, some of the ongoing expectations include: the Idea Book, the RAW Book, grammar activities, vocabulary development (root words, tone words, SAT words), independent reading goals, service-learning logs/reflections, and portfolio updates.

**Materials Needed:**

- English binder/folder (or students may choose to have a large binder for all A day classes, for example, and section off pages for English - this is for your use, so use the system that works best for you)
- composition book (wireless notebook) designated for English RAW Book (no notes from other classes)
- 1 inch binder with rings (any color or design) to be used as Idea Book for all classes
- pens/pencils (I don’t have any rules about writing with pen only, but avoid neon gel pens, please.)
- notebook paper for binder
- blue or black paper folder with brads/pockets (you’ll need this in the second semester)
- novel or text for each unit (titles will be announced 2-3 weeks in advance) + self-selected book

More supplies on next page!

**Classroom Supplies:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> period: box of Kleenex or handheld one-use tape dispenser
- 3<sup>rd</sup> period: box of Crayola markers or ream of colored paper (all one color)
- 4<sup>th</sup> period: 4-pack of highlighters or pack of pens or ream of colored paper

**Electronics Policy:** Please bring your charged Chromebook to class each day. Cell phones will be housed in the “cell hotel” during the class period. Cell phones are available for student use during lunch/passing periods.

**Grading Policy:**

All grading procedures are aligned by campus departments. So that students may quickly and easily average their own grades, there will be three basic “levels” of assignments in English classes. Level I assignments will be entered into the average *once*, Level II assignments will count *twice*, and Level III assignments will be weighted *three times*.

Level I = daily classwork, homework, completion grades, root words quizzes, pop quizzes

Level II = scheduled quizzes, timed writings, Socratic Seminars, RAW Book, etc.

Level III = Idea Books, projects, major writing assignments, tests

**Late Work:**

In order for you to be successful in this class, it is crucial that you keep up with deadlines. Technological issues are heart-breaking, so don’t wait until the night before due dates to complete work. If a printer crashes, turn in a handwritten paper. Extensions, for any reason, must be requested *prior* to the due date. If you are absent, send your work (or request for extension if you are very ill) via BLEND or email. If you miss a due date, ten points will be deducted each day for four days (two blocks). After four days, you may earn up to a grade of 50 for the assignment if you complete the task or an alternate assignment comparable in concept/content by the closing of the gradebook.

Highest Possible Grade on Due Date (Monday)	Highest Possible Grade 1 Day Late (Tuesday)	Highest Possible Grade 2 Days Late (Wednesday)	Highest Possible Grade 3 Days Late (Thursday)	Highest Possible Grade 4 Days Late (Friday)	Highest Possible Grade After 4 Days (the next week)
100	90	80	70	60	50

**Grading Note:**

- The late work policy is based on actual “human days” (week days), not “block days.”
- Some assignments that have been graded and returned to your classmates will not be accepted late.
- Assignments that are “progress check” grades and/or required for our in-class activity (i.e. bringing a specific draft of an essay to class, lit circle jobs, etc.) will be docked 30 points (10 late points per day and 20 participation points)
- Once the gradebook is “closed” for the grading period (typically the last Wednesday of the six weeks), late and make-up work will not be accepted.

**Retesting:**

If you score below a 75 on a major (Level 3) assignment, you may attempt to retest for mastery by attending tutorials to get help on the concept or content. After tutoring, you may retest or rewrite the essay for a maximum grade of 75.

**Make-Up Work:**

If you miss class for any reason, log onto BLEND, contact a classmate on the day(s) of your illness, and consult the agenda upon your return. If you are absent the day an assignment is due, send an email with the work attached (or turn into BLEND, if appropriate). Hard copies will be expected on the day you return to class. If you are too ill to complete the work, send an email requesting an extension. See me for additional information, to establish due dates, or to set appointments to retake quizzes/tests. Make-up assignments and retakes are required within three days of the original due date. If you know that you will be missing class due to a field trip or family obligation, assignments due during that time period are expected *prior* to your absence and will be marked as late if they are received after the deadline.

**The Rules:** Be prompt. Be prepared. Be polite. Be productive. All other expectations are discussed on the “Classroom Procedures” handout.

## World Studies Tentative Schedule

	World History	English II: World Literature
T H E J O U R N E Y	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Six Weeks: TOOLS OF THE TRADE → Foundations, Patterns of Culture, and Journeys</b>	
	<i>The Ancient World:</i> Characteristics of Civilization How Religion Shapes Society Buddhist/Hindu States Innovations Prior to 1450 Trade Around the World China and the Mongol Empire	Foundations of Analysis: Literary Terms/Devices Summer Reading: <i>Life of Pi</i> Intro to Joseph Campbell's Hero Cycle Hero Cycle student-choice reading: <i>The Ramayana</i> (Narayan translation), <i>Siddhartha</i> (Hesse), or other approved hero cycle texts
	Projects/Major Assignments: Hero Cycle Tracking Project (solo or partners) begins (due in 2 <sup>nd</sup> six weeks)	
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Six Weeks: THE JOURNEY CONTINUES → The Struggle for Truth and Power</b>	
	Innovation and Diffusion of Greco-Roman Learning Exploration and Spanish Conquest Middle Passage Colombian Exchange/Joint Stock Companies Waste Management: Disease & Urbanization	Continue Hero Cycle Comparative Text Unit Plato's <i>Allegory of the Cave</i> Articles related to waste/affluenza (AGS theme) Creative Process: Upcycle Product Design and Brochure (continues into next six weeks)
	Projects/Major Assignments: Idea Book Set 1; Hero Cycle Project	
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Six Weeks: GLOBAL QUESTS</b>	
	Gunpowder Empires & Qing Dynasty Early Modern Religion/State Consolidation & Challenges Global Power Summit: Maritime Empires and Land-based Empires	Excerpts from Shakespeare's <i>The Tempest</i> Independent Reading: Latin American Literature
	Projects/Major Assignments: Idea Book Set 2; Upcycle Product/Brochure (AGS project)	
	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Six Weeks: A WHOLE NEW WORLD → The Birth of the Modern Era</b>	
P O W E R A N D	Industrialization/Urban Game Imperialism Migration and Movement (including Latin America) Capitalism & Marxism	Latin American Unit (+ Costa Rica prep) Logical Fallacies/Satire Non-fiction readings related to TGPLAN topic Begin Jamaica Kincaid's <i>A Small Place</i>
	Projects/Major Assignments: Latin American Novel Project, Costa Rica Travel Log, Work on IB Set 3	
	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Six Weeks: THINGS FALL APART → Collapse, War, Genocide</b>	
	Collapse of Empires and Colonial Revolt The World Wars Holocaust & Genocide The Cold war	Jamaica Kincaid's <i>A Small Place</i> , continued Rhetoric/Creation of Advocacy Products War Literature (memoir, songs, poetry) Teach-for-a-Day Prep
Projects/Major Assignments: Idea Book Set 3, Advocacy Product (World Studies); TGPLAN Showcase (AGS)		
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Six Weeks: GLOBALIZATION - Contemplating a World Without Borders</b>		
V O I C E	<i>The Modern World:</i> Scientific Developments Decolonization & the Third World The Middle East Contemporary Issues	Continue World Tour Literature Circles (texts read via World History class) Hosseini's <i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i>
	Projects/Major Assignments: Final Idea Book/AGS Portfolio, Teach-for-a-Day (group project for English and World History), Historical Fiction Short Story	

**Texts:** Copies of the following books are available for check-out through the English Dept.: *The Ramayana*, *The Tempest*, *A Small Place*, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. There is a limited supply of: *Siddhartha*, *Candide*, Latin American novel choices, World Tour lit circle choices. It is recommended that you buy your own copies of texts for annotation purposes. Literature circle options will be announced 2-3 weeks prior to the beginning of the unit so you may purchase books online.