

Tulare Joint Union High School District

January 31, 2019

Dear Parents and Students:

Tulare Joint Union High School offers a freshman English Honors course which meets the state Reading/Language Arts Framework for the California Public Schools requirements at a higher performance standard than in the other core English classes.

Students are challenged with a more rigorous curriculum, including advanced literary selections and a wide variety of written applications. Honors students will be contracted to complete core homework every evening, as well as summer and possibly winter break reading assignments.

Our goal, through this course, is to better prepare students for the rigors of advanced-placement classes in high school and for demanding college work. While all students are encouraged to apply for this course, students should consider whether or not they are willing to commit to the high performance standards of an honors class.

Please review the attached application forms and directions. Selection will be based on a variety of factors: grades, state test scores, writing ability, and reading level.

Students, we look forward to reviewing your application and reading your written samples.

Parents, please call or email if you have any further questions regarding this course.

Sincerely,



Zilda Hilliard
zilda.hilliard@tulare.k12.ca.us
(559 687-7307)



Tabby Grabowski
Tabby.grabowski@tulare.k12.ca.us
(559) 686-4761



Jana Petersdorf
Jana.petersdorf@tulare.k12.ca.us
(559) 686-8751

_____, _____
Last Name

First Name

High School: MO TU TW

Student/Parent Contract for Enrollment & Honor Code

The primary objective of the English I Honors program is to provide students with a high quality education while developing within them sense of ethical and social responsibility. Trust is an essential element of the learning process and self-discipline is indispensable in the pursuit. Any instance of dishonesty harms the entire class.

A student enrolled in English I Honors assumes the requirements to conduct him or herself in a manner compatible with the goals and objectives of the course. Each student is personally responsible for behavior appropriate to the class as well as compliance with the policies and procedures established by the school district.

Personal conduct on the part of a student that is contrary to the realization of the course's objective is subject to discipline. All forms of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to cheating and plagiarism, and any interference of the teaching and learning process will not be tolerated.

I affirm that my writing sample is my own work and reflects my own ideas and writing style.

I understand that English I Honors requires exceptional attendance, self-motivation, persistence, completion of core homework every evening, as well as summer and winter break reading and writing assignments.

Student Signature _____

I have reviewed my child's application and have read the requirements of the English I Honors course and honor code.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

All applications are due to your middle school English teacher by March 1, 2019.

Application Directions for English I Honors

Please read and follow these directions carefully:

1. All responses to the APPLICATION page must be printed in black ink.
2. Follow the directions on the “Writing Prompt” below to complete the written requirements of the essay on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to write the essay in black ink, on one side of each page only.
3. Please staple your printed application form with your essay at the back and submit to your core language arts teacher. Do not submit the application in a folder or cover.
4. Complete applications, including writing samples, are due to your language arts teacher no later than March 1, 2018.

Writing Sample Topic

Directions for writing: Write an essay to the following prompt. You are encouraged to organize your thoughts, write a rough draft, revise and edit your sample before submitting your final draft.

The final draft:

- Must be handwritten in black ink demonstrating your best handwriting and writing skills.
- Must be written on one side of the paper only. Do not type your draft.
- Should be at least one page and no more than three pages in length.

Writing prompt:

Your best friend is getting behind in English Language Arts because he fails to do his homework or does it while watching TV and texting. Think about the conditions necessary for intense concentration and learning. Write an essay that tries to convince your friend that they could study more efficiently if they changed the way they did their homework.

_____, _____
Last Name First Name

High School: MO TU TW

Application for English I Honors

Name _____
First Last Middle

Address _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____

Why would you like to be enrolled in this class?

What will your goals be (personal and academic) as a high school student?

What is the most difficult book you have read? What made it difficult?

What are your strengths as a writer?

