

English as a Second Language

Course Syllabus

2017-2018 School Year

Mr. Blake Petersen

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Willard High School

3rd Hour & TNT, 9:10-10:34 AM Monday-Friday

(417) 742-3524 ext. 3849 or ext. 3263

Course Description

The English as a Second Language class is designed for students who are fortunate enough to have a first language or a home language other than English. The primary goal for this class is to become proficient in the academic language of English. As such, the topics in this class will cover many different content areas but will focus on *academic* language development

Each student has been given a placement test or language exam and received proficiency scores for their speaking, listening, reading, and writing abilities in English. The ESL teacher will work with students individually and collectively to increase students' skills and proficiency in each of these areas. More information about the ESL program is available on the ESL website:

www.willardesl.weebly.com

Materials

Be sure to bring the following required materials everyday *even if I do not ask you to do so*: laptop, pencil & eraser, notebook or notebook paper, and silent reading material.

Classroom Expectations

- This classroom will follow the WHS student handbook. Students are responsible for knowing the handbook. *This includes knowing and following the policies on being tardy, cell phones, and ear buds!*
- **Attendance:** To be successful, students need to be present in class. Unless it is necessary please do not miss class. See handbook. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get missed work.
- **Respect:** Everyone in this class is to demonstrate and can expect respect. I will not tolerate students tearing others down. If you are uncertain if something is appropriate, it is better to remain quiet.
- **Late Work:** Late work will have 10% taken off. It will be accepted during the current grading period only.
- **Work Hard:** There will inevitably come a time in which some of you have “nothing” to do. Unfortunately, that is never the case in this class. After you have finished everything that I have asked of you, you may read silently. There is *always* something to read--magazines, books, homework for another class.

Student Responsibilities

- Be in your assigned seat with all materials when the bell rings
- Follow directions the **FIRST** time they are given
- Ask relevant questions and be ready to participate in class activities
- Carefully read assignments
- Treat classmates with respect

Classroom Procedures

1. All students are to check the front board when they arrive to see what is expected for the day. Students are then responsible for being in their seat and working by the time the tardy bell rings.
2. We will utilize our laptops and Google accounts. Students are expected to bring appropriate materials to class. Students are to use their laptops appropriately: there will be times when we will all be using our laptops and there will be times when all laptops need to be put away.

Consequences for Misbehavior

1. First Offense: Verbal Warning
2. Second Offense: Parent Contact
3. Third Offense: Referral to administrator & parent contact

Course Policies/Components

Testing will occur in January and February for all students participating in the ESL program. The test is called the ACCESS for ELLs, and it measures students' English language proficiency. The scores from this year's test will be available in May 2017. There are no formal ESL class tests, but there are keystone projects and quizzes throughout the year.

Supports and accommodations have been made for each student for this school year, and a copy of the list will be provided to the student, the student's parents or guardians, and the student's classroom content teachers. The supports and accommodations are designed to help students who are learning English to understand and show their knowledge of the subject matter without being penalized or inhibited by their language ability.

Grades are based on student's language development as evidenced through daily work, projects, and assessments. Students will develop language goals based on their ACCESS Scores from the previous year and be assessed on those goals throughout the year according to the WIDA ACCESS Rubric.