

WELCOME to
ENGLISH
CLASS!





Introduction

Mr. Nielsen

This is my fourth year teaching at IvyTech.

I have a MFA in screenwriting from CSU Northridge, where I later completed my teaching credential program.

I teach English, English Skills, and multiple electives that we will talk about later tonight.





Onsite/Synch English

Middle School is currently working on

THE OUTSIDERS - we are about halfway through the novel, and stop to examine vocabulary, literary devices, and tie the text in with modern-day student lives.





Onsite/Synch English

High school is currently working on:

THE EPIC OF GILGAMESH.

Students are currently creating cuneiform steles, where they write and illustrate their own name and age, translating it into the ancient language.





THE EPIC OF GILGAMESH

Students will be reading the earliest recorded story of a heroic demigod undertaking an epic adventure.





THE EPIC OF GILGAMESH

This will later be turned into a writing project where they write an essay about how a real-life hero overcomes many obstacles on the way to greatness.





THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

Students should be nearly done reading an independent reading book by now. The project involving this book will be due at the end of next week. It should be:

- Over 150 pages
- Fiction

They will do this again at the end of the semester, so they will need **ANOTHER** independent reading book soon!





THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

The independent reading and it's corresponding projects must be done to get an A or a B in the course.

I have office hours 3-3:30 each school day - students can stop by and ask for help during this time, and synchronous students can zoom with me via appointment.





INDEPENDENT STUDY ENGLISH

7th Graders currently on pace should be reading *The Riddle of the Rosetta Stone*.





INDEPENDENT STUDY ENGLISH

8th Graders currently on pace should be writing a personal narrative about someone who has influenced their life.





INDEPENDENT STUDY ENGLISH

9th Graders currently on pace should be reading and analyzing a variety of texts highlighting personal identity.





INDEPENDENT STUDY ENGLISH

10th graders currently on pace are reading *Why Sugar Changed the World*.





INDEPENDENT STUDY ENGLISH

11th Graders on pace are currently reading *The Scarlet Letter*.





INDEPENDENT STUDY ENGLISH

12th Graders currently on pace are learning about the text structure of informative texts.





INDEPENDENT STUDY

Things to know:

If students are behind in the course and are in danger of not finishing, I suggest they should always take the final for their independent study course.

The test carries a lot of weight, and I've seen this be the difference between letter grades in the class.





INDEPENDENT STUDY

Things to know:

The 3pm-3:30PM office hours also apply to independent study students, in addition to Monday and Friday hours (10am-12:30pm)

It's best to make an appointment for these, and we can meet via zoom.



I'm always available by email.



INDEPENDENT STUDY

I send a biweekly newsletter to the Independent Study students with important information, such as school closure dates and office hours changes.





ALL PARENTS

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me. If you'd like to have a zoom or telephone conversation, we can schedule that as well.

Does anyone have any questions about anything we discussed today?

