# WELCOME to ENGLISH CLASS!





#### Introduction

Mr. Nielsen

This is my fifth 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.





All middle school students should have picked an INDEPENDENT READING book - fiction, at least 150 pages, and approved by me.

They will have until the end of the semester to read the book, but the project will be a large part of their grade.





Middle School is currently part of a 3 day rotation. Tuesdays - Reading short stories, presenting summaries and themes.

Wednesdays - Writing-based educational games designed to focus on writing skills.

Thursdays - Essay writing. Middle schoolers are moving into multi-paragraph essays starting this week.





High School is currently part of a 3 day rotation. Tuesdays - Reading short stories, presenting summaries and analysis

Wednesdays - Writing-based educational games designed to focus on writing skills.

Thursdays - Essay writing. 9-10th graders will be writing personal stories, 11th-12th grade will do informative writing.





All high school students should have picked an INDEPENDENT READING book - fiction, at least 150 pages, and approved by me.

They will have until October 15th to read the entire book on their time! There will be a second book after this for a total of two a semester, or four a year.





#### THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

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





9th Graders currently on pace should be reading The Odyssey.





10th graders currently on pace are finishing up a unit on biographies, memoirs, and travelogues.





11th Graders on pace are working on narrative writing.





12th Graders currently on pace are writing about their idea of a utopia.





#### 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:

To make an appointment with me, please email. It can be via in-person or zoom. I'm available limited hours Mondays and Fridays.

I'm always available by email.





#### INDEPENDENT STUDY

I send a 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?

