

Jamie Zellner

Open House Presentation

2021

I have been teaching in Plano for 17 years. Almost all of my teaching experience has been with international students in the ESL program. I love teaching students from other countries, learning about their cultures, and helping them adjust to their new environment in American schools.

Besides teaching, I am also the department head for the ESOL department.

Welcome to Plano East Open House. My name is Jamie Zellner, and here is my teaching schedule:

1st: English 4 E

2nd: conference

3rd: English 4 E

4th: LPAC

5th: Leadership responsibilities

6th: English 4 E

7th: Practical Writing

Here is the course overview for English 4:

- 1st Quarter: Exploring Human Nature
- 2nd Quarter: Crafting a Personal Philosophy
- 3rd Quarter: Preserving the Past to Build the Future
- 4th Quarter: The Final Quest(ion)- Inquiry Project

Students will come to understand that...

- Great works of literature inspire us to ask questions about our own humanity.
- Literature reflects human nature.
- Human nature transcends time, place, and culture.
- Leaders are oftentimes forged from circumstance.
- Struggle is both personal and universal.
- Background experiences shape our identity and beliefs.
- The stories of others can help us better understand ourselves.

Students will think about...

- How does great literature inspire us?
- How does literature help us understand human nature?
- Does human nature change over time?
- How are leaders shaped through circumstance?
- How do my experiences shape my identity?
- In what ways can other people's stories affect our beliefs and identity?

First Semester Literature

- Excerpts from *Beowulf* (epic poetry)
- Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Macbeth*
- *Anthem* by Ayn Rand
- A self-selected memoir, biography or autobiography
- "Dead Men's Path" by Chinua Achebe
- Contemporary essays by various authors
- Various poetry selections

2nd Semester Literature

- *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
- Fiction selections provided through StudySync, the online textbook
- Contemporary essays by various authors
- Various poetry selections

Philosophy for ESL

I understand that a lot of this work is difficult for those learning English. The most important thing to me is that the kids ...

- try their best,
- make progress,
- and think for themselves.

I will help them every step of the way. I would love to see them for tutorials during either A or B lunch.

Tutorial Schedule

Mondays during B lunch.

Wednesdays before school.

Those are my “official” tutorial times, but I’m available most days during lunch without an appointment.

Contact information

Please let me know if I can help with anything.

Jamie Zellner

jamie.zellner@pisd.edu

469-752-9000, ext. 39205