



**Weslaco East High School**  
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**TO:** 2019-2020 English Independent Studies Students  
**FROM:** Mrs. Ramos  
**RE:** Summer Reading

Dear Students:

The Independent Studies in English course is designed for students who have already completed credit for English 1-4. Students in this course should desire to continue improving their reading, writing, and vocabulary skills while preparing for the next step in their education, college. **The course will bear advanced credit of 1.1 for GPA/ranking purposes.** There is no specific summer reading assignment for English Independent Studies. The course will focus on the four core areas listed below. I have listed ways you can use your time productively this summer to prepare for the course and your senior year.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TEST PREP</b></p> <p>Students use school and online resources to focus their study on identified areas of deficiency on TSI, ACT, and SAT tests. Students use data from practices and official test results to create and execute study plans that will result in improved scores.</p> <p>The instructor guides students through reflection and data analysis and facilitates the creation of personalized goals and study plans.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COLLEGE ADMISSIONS &amp; SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS</b></p> <p>Students draft, revise, edit, and finalize college admissions essays. Students are guided through the Apply Texas / Common Application process.</p> <p>The instructor assists students by giving examples of successful college admissions essays, providing feedback on essay drafts, and conferencing about revision.</p> <p>Counselors and College and Career Center staff are utilized to help students complete college/scholarship applications and FAFSA/TASFA efficiently.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COLLEGE READING, WRITING &amp; VOCABULARY STUDY</b></p> <p>Students read key articles and college-level content to improve note taking and advanced reading skills. Students follow a vocabulary-building program. Students learn various methods and modes of college writing, including multiple documentation styles.</p> <p>The instructor creates and executes lessons and evaluates student progress on vocabulary, grammar, reading, and writing.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PERSONAL FOCUS AREA</b></p> <p>Students can choose an area for personal focus regarding future planning, such as comparing degree plans, researching schools of interest, or determining prerequisites for selected degrees.</p> <p>Some students may choose to communicate with a mentor in a field of interest.</p> <p>The instructor facilitates and monitors each student's progress and sets up mentoring opportunities.</p>

- Investigate colleges/universities that interest you. Familiarize yourself with their programs and degree plans.
- Search for degree plans for areas of study that interest you.
- Look into acceptance requirements for colleges and programs that interest you.
- Make yourself aware of the essay topics for the college applications you plan to complete. Begin brainstorming and drafting for these essays.
- Use #WEHSTESTPREP on Twitter to begin gathering tools to improve your ACT / SAT / TSI scores.

I look forward to working with you next year to achieve your goals!