

English 9 Course Syllabus

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Course Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students will have:

1. Improved his/her writing skills
2. Improved his/her reading skills
3. Improved his/her oral speaking skills
4. Become a self-directed learner

Students will be able to:

1. Work in a group situation and be a contributing member
2. Think critically
3. Research information from various sources and cite resources correctly
4. Produce Quality Work
5. Evaluate critically both his/her own work and that of others.

Units of the Course:

This is only a brief snapshot of the course; units are more involved than is shown here.

Unit One: Introduction to Literature

- Literary Terminology
- Descriptive Essay
- Parts of Speech
- Figurative Language

Unit Two: Poetics

- Evaluating Style
- Comparing Sources
- Allegory, Irony, and Ambiguity
- Complex Sentence Structure

Unit Three: *Romeo & Juliet*

- Shakespeare's Life in Brief
- The Globe Theatre
- Romeo and Juliet
- Introduction to The Multi-Paragraph Essay
- Expository and Persuasive Writing
- Grammar (taught within context of literary texts)
- Shakespeare's Sonnets
- Shakespearean Insults
- Diction and Delivery

Unit Four: The Heroic Journey

- Rites of Passage
- The Heroic Journey Pattern
- The Odyssey
- Mythology, Ancient and Modern

Films used during the year may include:

- To Kill a Mockingbird
- Star Wars (PG)
- Twelve Angry Men
- The Odyssey

Methods of Assessment

Students will be assessed throughout the year by:

Essays*	Projects	Homework
Class Participation	Short Lectures	Class Discussions
Oral Presentations	Individual And Group Work	
Quizzes	Tests	

*Essays not turned in by the rough draft due date will not be accepted late. Failure to turn in the rough draft will consequently result in the failure of the paper and no points will be recorded for the assignment.

Students are encouraged to offer comparable alternatives to assignments that they feel will not challenge them adequately. The instructor reserves final approval.

“Life Rules”

During and at the completion of this course, students should exhibit the following “Life Rules”:

1. Be Prompt
2. Be Prepared
3. Participate
4. Be respectful of self, others, and the environment

Attendance and Late Work

- **Tardies:** will be monitored and the school’s tardy policy will be followed.
 - 1st tardy~warning
 - 2nd tardy~phone call home to parent
 - 3rd tardy~referral for detention
- **Cuts:** Cutting class ensures you’ll get a lower grade, because *you cannot make up any* work you missed on that day; work assigned that day will be recorded as *zero points*.
- **Late work due to absence:** if you are absent, it is *your* responsibility to find out what you missed. You must get assignments on the first day you are back in school. You will have two (2) class meeting days to get the assignment turned in. If you are absent the day something is due, *the assignment must be handed in at the beginning of class on the day you return*.
- **Mastery Learning:** Major assessments, such as essays, tests, and projects are the only assignments that can be made up within the mastery learning model. Work that is not quality will be returned to the student with the understanding that quality must be achieved. A two (2) day window, two (2) school days, will be open so students may improve their work and achieve mastery of the subject. The two-day window is at the discretion of the teacher and only given to students who have been putting forth a sincere effort in class.

Extra Credit: No extra credit is given in this course.

Homework: Homework will be assigned; it is to be turned in at the beginning of the next class meeting. Failure to turn in homework on the day and time it is due will result in zero points being awarded for the assignment(s).

Grading

All assignments are by points. Letter grades are based on the following scale:

- 90-100%: A
- 80-89%: B
- 70-79%: C
- 60-69%: D
- Below 60%: F

Commitment

If you understand all of the requirements and expectations, please sign below to show you are willing to commit yourself to fulfilling them with your best effort—**QUALITY!**

Name (print) _____

Sign _____

Date _____

Parent/Guardian (print) _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

Sign _____

Date _____