

Course Description

English 9 is the foundation for high school English courses. This course teaches writing and reading as processes. It encourages critical thinking and problem solving skills to be used in the daily practice of writing and reading. Students will be responsible for applying grammar and vocabulary lessons in their writing. Students will read a variety of literature including, but not limited to *Romeo and Juliet*, personal narrative, essays, short stories, poetry and novels. The literature will be read and discussed critically as well as act as a model for student writing. A variety of technology will be incorporated in order to maximize student interest and learning. The course will also attempt to enhance oral communication both formally and informally.

Grading Policy

It is important for students to know that grades are not a reflection of how much I like them; grades are a reflection of the learning that has taken place and how hard they are willing to work.

Grades will be comprised of the following items: daily and homework assignments, writing/speaking assignments, quizzes and tests.

Extra credit will be very limited. Students will not be allowed any extra credit if they have a zero in the grade book for an assignment they did not do or turn in. It is not fair to the rest of the class, who have turned in everything, to give someone a chance for extra credit, who decided to not do an assignment or 2.

Grading Scale

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	69-60
F	59-0

Cheating & Plagiarism

Cheating will not be tolerated! If a student is caught cheating, the student will be given a zero on the assignment or test without the opportunity to regain those points.

Plagiarism: to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as ones own: use a created production without crediting the source: present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.

Plagiarizing is cheating!! If a student is caught plagiarizing a zero will be given without the opportunity to regain those points.

Late Work

Late work will not be tolerated. Assignments are due on certain dates, that will be given to you. If you turn in late work it will be counted as a zero. There are two exceptions: 1) If you are sick and miss school it will be dealt with per the student handbook. 2) If you have made prior arrangements with me with a VERY VERY VERY GOOD EXCUSE!

Missing Class

When a student misses a class period, they are expected to contact me about the missed materials and assignments. I will not track you down! It is your responsibility to come see me. This refers to missing because of illness, Dr. appointments, and early release because of activities and athletics. If you know ahead of time that you are going to miss class, let me know as far in advance as you can and I will try and have things ready for you.

Other Expectations

- 1) RESPECT OTHERS AND THEIR PROPERTY!
- 2) Be in your seat and prepared for class when the bell rings.
- 3) Make sure you bring paper, pen (blue or black ink) and pencil with you every day. I will let you know ahead of time on the text or other materials.
- 4) **ASK QUESTIONS!!!!** I am here to help make you successful. If you need help or don't understand something ask. If you don't ask it is very hard for me to help you. Don't wait till the end of a grading period to ask for help! In other words " Don't dig yourself a hole so deep that it will be hard to get out of!!! "