

English 9 Syllabus 2024-2025

Teacher Name: Mr. Eli Dreilinger/ Ms. Adrienne Davet

Classroom Number: Roy C. Ketcham High School, Room 215

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*Email is the preferred, and most efficient way of contact. If you prefer a phone call, please email me and let me know a good time to call you.

Course Description:

The English 9 course is designed to introduce you to concepts and skills that students will need for ELA classes during their time in high school, as well as beyond. The reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking skills that will be taught and practiced throughout the course are a vital part to a students' development. Students will read an array of literature from diverse voices ranging from American classics to British plays, and from society's earliest writings to up-and-coming contemporary pieces. Students will begin to learn how to write in a formal style required to pass the ELA Regents exam in 11th grade through frequent writing opportunities in both creative and rhetorical styles. Students will also sharpen grammar skills, diversify their use of sentence structures, and begin to develop voice in their writing. Students should be prepared to exercise their critical thinking skills throughout the year, and be ready to accept any challenges that arise in their learning process.

Possible Readings: These are the books that I plan to teach this year, however, I will adapt and adjust course materials as needed throughout the year in order to ensure the course best fits the needs of the specific students in each class.

- *The Odyssey*, Homer
- *Monster*, Walter Dean Myers
- *Romeo and Juliet*, William Shakespeare
- *The Martian Chronicles*, Ray Bradbury
- *Call Us What We Carry*, Amanda Gorman

Required Student Materials:

- 1 Marble Composition Notebook to be kept in the classroom
- Folder for handouts
- Writing utensil of choice
- I will let you know in advance if Chromebooks are needed for class

Assessment:

Students will be assessed in multiple different ways in order to ensure opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding by utilizing both their strengths and weaknesses. Some of the possible methods of assessment may include the following:

- Essays
- Presentations
- Artistic and creative projects
- Tests & quizzes
- Participation in discussions
- Journal writing

Students should be open to challenges in order to ensure growth.

Behavioral Expectations:

1. **Be on time.** Class will begin promptly once the bell rings. If you arrive after the bell without a signed pass you will be marked tardy for that period. After **4 tardies**, a referral will be written to the grade level administrator.
2. **Follow directions the first time they are given.** Insubordination will result in a referral to be written to the grade level administrator and a loss of privileges in the classroom.
3. **Respect your community, your peers, your teacher, and yourself.** Disrespectful behaviors consist of, but are not limited to, hateful speech, derogatory language, bullying, physical violence, and vandalism. These behaviors will not be accepted in the class and will result in a referral to be written to the grade level administrator.
4. **Take responsibility for your actions, words, and thoughts.** Developing integrity is an essential part of personal growth. Mistakes happen, and that is okay. But it is never okay to deflect or blame others for decisions that you made. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for mistakes.
5. **Participate in your learning.** This consists of working on assignments when instructed, participating in class discussions and activities, and asking questions.
6. **Be willing to learn and try hard.** This class rewards those who take risks, work hard, and seek improvement. Students who are open to failure and always demonstrate consistent effort will receive their desired grade.
7. **Don't be upset with the results you didn't get from the work you didn't do.** This course is designed to reward students who participate in their learning every day. If you did not take an assignment or activity seriously, your results will reflect that.
8. **Become addicted to constant and never-ending self-improvement.** Seek out ways to grow and improve as a reader, writer, and a person. Find ways to get 1% better each day and strive to always improve a little bit every day.

Bathroom Procedure:

1. Walk over to the designed bathroom pass area and fill out a pass. Fill out everything but the signature.
2. Raise your hand and cross your fingers. Do NOT shout out, interrupt instruction, or distract your peers.
3. If it is an OK time to leave, I will sign your pass and you may leave.

Bathroom Rules:

1. Only **one student at a time** may leave the classroom to go to the bathroom. This is a building policy and no exceptions will be granted unless there is a dire emergency.
2. Students must go to the **ELA Wing Bathroom**. It is the closest bathroom to the classroom.
3. Students must return within a reasonable amount of time to allow other students who may need to use the bathroom.

Students who abuse bathroom passes will result in a loss of privileges.

Cell-Phone Rules:

Students are not permitted to have any electronic devices visible during class time. This includes, but is not limited to, cell phones, tablets, smartwatches, earbuds, and any other similar devices. If a student is found with a visible electronic device, they will be immediately dismissed to the grade-level administrator. A referral will be issued following the dismissal, and parents/guardians will be notified of the violation through email. Repeated violations may result in further disciplinary actions as deemed appropriate by school administration. The presence of electronic devices in the classroom creates distractions not only for the individual student but also for surrounding students and the teacher. This policy is implemented to maintain an environment conducive to learning for all students.

Late-Work Policy:

We will have very few assignments that you will need to complete at home. In other words, **the majority of work will take place during class time**. In addition, most assignments will require knowledge of previous assignments in order to complete. Therefore it is important that you complete all assignments by the time they are due so you do not fall behind. All students need to make sure they are utilizing classroom time efficiently.

Despite this, late work is always accepted until either the interim report, or the end of the quarter, whichever comes first. Assignments turned in late will receive 5 points off per day, with a maximum of 35 points taken off. If there are any concerns about making up work or keeping up with classwork due to specific conditions, please let me know. I will work with you in order to make sure you are able to have the enriching educational experience you deserve and desire.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is defined as “the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own” (Merriam-Webster). Copying someone else's work, whether it be copying another student's assignment or copy and pasting work from the internet will result in a **0**. Also, copying work from ChatGPT is obvious, and I will grade them accordingly. **ChatGPT work is not high quality, and will receive poor grades.**

Attendance Policy:

Since there will not be much homework in this class, it is essential that you make sure you are present everyday. If you miss a day, please check Google Classroom. Any assignments, updates, or news will be posted in the morning. There will also be paper copies of these assignments in the designated area in the classroom. Absent students will get one week to complete the missing assignments. If there are no updates on Google Classroom, or you are unsure what to do, please reach out to me via email.

Plan of Study:

This course is divided into 7 main units that we will discuss throughout the year. Students will explore each topic to create their own understandings and meanings through assigned literature, writing assignments, and classroom activities.

Quarter	Units
1	<p>1. Launch/Identity- This unit will allow students to explore their own identities while also celebrating the diversity within the class. This unit also should be used to practice classroom routines and set a tone for the year.</p> <p>2. Myths, Allegories, and Archetypes- This unit deals with the commonality of character and the human condition across time culture.</p>
2	<p>3. Outsiders and Outcasts- The focus in this unit will be on how authors develop characters and how characters change over the course of the text.</p> <p>4. Power and Conformity- Students will understand how power is acquired and used and the positive and negative effects of power on individuals and groups.</p>
3	<p>5. Seeking Justice- In this unit, students will begin to see variations of equity and fairness and the ways in which socioeconomic factors, social hierarchy, and marginalization affect an individual's quest for justice.</p> <p>6. Critical Media Literacy- Preparing students for civic engagement is an essential part of our curriculum. In a world where they are overwhelmed with information, students must learn to distinguish what is valuable and reliable from what is not, and learn to seek information from a variety of sources, so they may develop and communicate ideas effectively. Teaching students to be critical "readers of their world" across media is the central focus of this unit.</p>
4	<p>7. . Choices and Consequences- This unit asks students to consider their choices and the consequences that follow. Students will encounter individuals, both fictional and real, who struggle with understanding their role in controlling their own destinies.</p>

Please keep the syllabus for your information. Remove this section to return, signed, to Mr. Dreilinger or Ms. Davet:

By signing below, I am agreeing that I have seen and read the policies above, and will be accountable for the content listed in this syllabus throughout this academic school year.

Course Name: _____

Student's Name (Print): _____

Student's Signature: _____

Parent's/Guardian's Names (Print): _____

Parent's/Guardian's Signatures: _____

Parent's/Guardian's Email Address: _____

Parent's/Guardian's Phone Number: _____

Comments/Concerns Regarding Your Child: _____