

# English 9

## Course Syllabus: 2022 - 2023

Mr. Adams (Room 102)

### Class Overview & General Information

#### **Course Description:**

This full-year course is required of all freshmen. This course places emphasis upon the fundamentals of grammar, the sentence, and paragraph development. The writing focus for the class is argument writing and the literature portion of the class will include the short story, novel, drama, and poetry. This course emphasizes building essential skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing, and critical thinking, all of which are essential to helping students become effective learners.

#### **Course Objectives:**

- To demonstrate understanding of novels, poetry, short stories, drama, and informational texts
- To sharpen grammar, punctuation, and spelling skills and successfully use them in writing
- To create polished written work through prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing
- To develop confidence as a reader and writer
- To communicate and respond to ideas during discussion

#### **Texts and Required Supplies:**

Texts will be read either on the iPad in PDF format, in the literature textbook, or you will be given a copy.

*Daily you will also need a **charged iPad**, a binder with tabs, a writing utensil, and notebook paper/notebook.*

#### **Grading Policy:**

##### Grading Scale:

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

The grading is on a point system. Quizzes, tests, classwork, participation, and assignments such as: essays, in-class work, bell-ringers, projects, class discussions, and homework are assigned a point value. Participation points will be taken for class discussion days and presentation days. Students are expected to keep up with their own grades regularly and often via ProgressBook to have an idea of current standing in the class.

### Classroom Expectations & Policies

### **Respect:**

You will respect me, your classmates, and yourself at all times and you have the right to expect the same in return. Any form of disrespect will not be tolerated and will be punished appropriately.

### **Tardiness:**

You are expected to arrive on time for class and be in your assigned seat with required materials, ready to begin class when the bell rings. The following is the school policy for tardiness:

**3<sup>rd</sup> tardy in a grading period:** a lunch detention

**4<sup>th</sup> tardy:** a Wednesday detention

**5<sup>th</sup> tardy:** receives a referral to the office for a Saturday School, In-School Suspension, or Suspension.

### **Absences:**

If you are absent for any reason, you will have the same number of days you are absent to make up the work. **It is YOUR responsibility to arrange for and complete the necessary work THE DAY you return.** If you missed a test, you must make it up as soon as possible when you come back. All assignments that were due while you were absent will be due when you return. Please email me while you are absent, if possible.

### **Denial of Credit Policy for a Semester Course:**

Any student who accrues non-professional absences in excess of four (4) days in a nine week period, eight (8) days in a semester-long class and/or sixteen (16) days in a year-long class will be subject to receive zeroes on assignments for every additional day of non-professional absence for the remainder of the 9 weeks for each class in which this takes place. Each new nine weeks, every student will begin with a clean slate with regard to period attendance.

### **Cheating:**

Cheating includes: plagiarism, copying someone else's work, or allowing someone to copy your work. You should complete work individually unless otherwise indicated by me. On the first offense, both parties receive a zero on the assignment, quiz, or test **AND** will be reported to the offices and disciplinary action will take place.

### **Technology Use:**

There will be times when we will be using technology for academic purposes. If I see a cell phone, iPad, or other electronic device in use when they aren't allowed, I will confiscate and hold them until the end of class. (Note: this includes earbuds/headphones.)

### **Dismissal/End of Class:**

Class ends when the bell rings, not before. You are not to pack up early; this is distracting to myself and your classmates and could cause you to miss important information. We will be working bell to bell each day, unless otherwise indicated by me.

### **Late Work:**

Assignments must be turned in on time in order to receive full credit. Once we have completed a unit, I will no longer accept work turned in late from that unit. *This includes tests.* Any late assignment will have **10%** of the total points deducted from it per day it is late.

### **Drills:**

In the event of a fire drill, we will leave the room out the front doors next to the office. A lockdown drill will have us barricading ourselves in this room, and making sure the door is locked. If need be, during a real threat, we will leave through a window. Lockdown drills will revolve around our going into the hallway, and quietly sit facing the lockers.

### **Hall Passes:**

There will be a sign out sheet and a hall pass present in the room. Sign out on the sheet and take the pass when you leave. Don't awkwardly go a lot, or at the same time everyday, or I'm going to assume you have some strange medical condition that I need to call home about.

## **English 9 Course Outline**

**\*\*Subject to Change\*\***

### **First Quarter: *Introduction to English 9 Skills***

- **Short Story/Literary Terms**
  - The plot diagram, foreshadowing, setting, conflict, theme, irony, mood, imagery, allusion, style, suspense, symbolism, genre, first, second, and third person
  - Indirect and direct characterization, flat/static characters, round/dynamic characters, mood, tone, motif, theme, connotation, denotation
  - Vocabulary Development
- **Grammar and Writing Unit**
  - **Personal Narrative**
  - **Argumentative**
  - Informative
  - **Writer's Workshop – Processes of outlining, editing, revising and drafting.**
  - Parts of Speech / Sentence Structure / Types of Phrases / Types of Clauses
  - Standard Capitalization, Punctuation, and Spelling

### **Second Quarter: Introduction to Speech and Debate / *The Odyssey***

- **Introduction to Speech and Debate**

- o Famous Orator’s Analysis: Susan B. Anthony, Abraham Lincoln, Jim Valvano, Ronald Reagan, various famous movie speeches
- o Companion Text – “The United States vs. Susan B. Anthony by: Margaret Truman
- o Evaluation of a Speaker / Presentation of Research / Rhetorical Usage / Ethos, Pathos, Logos / Allusion / Parallel Structure
- o Debate and the Art of Persuasion: Change My Mind, Samoan Circle, Sale’s Pitch, “On the Fence”.
- ***The Odyssey***
  - o Genre Focus: The Epic
  - o Prediction/Inference Writing + Informative Writing
  - o Internal / External Conflict
  - o Verse and Prose Reading
  - o Literary Terms: foreshadowing, epithet, setting/plot development, theme, characterization, suspense, tone, epic similes, conflict, irony, epic plot.
  - o Choice Board Project: Research & Inquiry on Greek Culture, Odysseus Press Conference, Comic Strip/ Graphic Novel or Epic Hero vs. Super Hero
- **Independent Reading Project (Assigned)**
  - o Assignment sheet and novel selection in November, tentatively due in April.
  - o Select one novel, not previously read in Middle School, that exceeds 150 pages and is at your reading level.
  - o Book Review and student choice on two other “projects”

### Third Quarter: *Novel Study and Poetry Unit*

- ***Fallen Angels*** by Walter Dean Myers
  - o Time period/Setting the scene of the novel
  - o Literary terms: theme, character analysis/development, connotation, denotation, imagery, characterization, allusion, etc.
  - o Direct/Indirect Characterization, Classifying Characters
  - o Literary Analysis and Reflection Writing
  - o Critical Thinking Skills
  - o Class Discussion and Presentation of Ideas
  - o Vocabulary Development
- **Poetry Unit**
  - o Literary Terms: Figure of speech, simile, metaphor, personification, onomatopoeia, parallelism, hyperbole, alliteration, rhythm, repetition, end rhyme, assonance, canto, free verse
  - o ***The House on Mango Street*** by Sandra Cisneros Vignette
  - o “Who I Am/Where I’m From” Poems
  - o Poet Analysis: Sandra Cisneros, Maya Angelou, Gary Soto, Langston Hughes, Jason Reynolds, Pablo Neruda, and various student pieces

## Fourth Quarter: *Shakespeare*

- **Romeo and Juliet / Shakespeare Unit**

- o The Globe Theatre WebQuest
- o Shakespeare literary terms: tragedy, prose, iambic pentameter, blank verse, prologue, soliloquy, pun, comic relief, foil, tragic hero, dramatic irony, other vocabulary
- o Shakespearean Language Analysis
- o Shakespearean sonnets
- o Play/film comparison
- o Informational texts
- o Group Scene Project