

ENGLISH 9 SYLLABUS 2015-2016
MS. GINA BAILIFF

Course Description

In English 9, students will be required to spend a substantial amount of time outside of class reading and preparing for the course. The Common Core standards address the strands of reading, writing, language, speaking, and listening in the curriculum.

- Reading: a study of both fictional and informational texts and the various genres
- Writing: a study of the writing process
- Language: a study of the conventions of standard English, language, and vocabulary
- Speaking and Listening: a study of comprehension and collaboration and the presentation of knowledge and ideas

Course Requirements

Homework

Class Work (both individual and group)

Essays

Oral Presentations

Outside Reading Journals

Literary Terminology

Independent Reading Projects

Semester Exam(s)

Seminar

Sustained Silent Reading (SSR)

Research Projects and/or paper(s)

Tests

Quizzes

Texts

Mirrors and Windows: Connecting with Literature: Level IV, EMC Publishing and supplementary material from the publisher

Elements of Language (Holt, Rinehart, and Winston)

Great Short Stories by American Women (Edited by Candace Ward)

The Lively Art of Writing (Lucile Vaughan Payne)

Models for Writers: Short Essays for Composition (Alfred Rosa and Paul Eschholz)

MLA Handbook

The Riverside Reader (Joseph Trimmer)

Assigned Novels for Sustained Silent Reading (SSR)

****There will also be music and art representative of the various time periods. In addition, films, educational videos, and contemporary articles may be used if appropriate and relevant for the lesson.**

Possible Novels or Drama for Sustained Silent Reading (SSR):

Marc Aronson and Marina Budhos' *Sugar Changed the World: A Story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom, and Science*

Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*

John Bul Dau and Martha Arual Akech, *Lost Boy, Lost Girl: Escaping Civil War in Sudan*

Paulo Coelho's *The Alchemist*

William Golding's *Lord of the Flies*

Edith Hamilton's *Mythology*

Ernest Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*

Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*

John Knowles' *A Separate Peace*

Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird* (as well as the film version)

Lois Lowry's series: *The Giver, Gathering Blue, Messenger, Son*

J.R.R. Tolkein's *The Hobbit*

Antoine de Saint-Exupery's *The Little Prince*

William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*

Malala Yousafzai and Christina Lamb's *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban*

Markus Zusak's *The Book Thief*

Materials

- * Three-ring notebook with assigned tabs
- * Textbook, classroom handouts and/or notes, and any other supplementary materials
- * Students are expected to bring a notebook, pen or pencil, and the appropriate text to class every day. This is crucial to classroom participation. If unprepared, this will affect the student's participation grade.

Grading Policy

Students will access individual grades through the program Parent Portal.

In addition to the course requirements outlined in the syllabus above, students will receive two participation grades each nine week grading period, one at midterm and one at the end of term.

This is an extremely important component of class because this work is intended to prepare students for the course requirements as outlined above in the syllabus. Failure to complete or put effort into daily participation assignments may impact other work required in class. The participation grade includes two components:

1. All daily class work and/or homework is included in the participation grade.
This includes but is not limited to class notes, notebook checks, literature circle assignments, vocabulary and grammar work, *Lively Art* questions, work from textbook, novels, and other assigned reading. To ensure that students are keeping up with assigned work throughout the grading period, there will be random checks on some assignments.
2. Being on time, seated when the bell rings, and prepared for class is also included in the participation grade. Students are expected to bring writing utensils, texts,

paper and notebook, and any required work for the day as part of the participation grade. Staying on-task during class is vital to the learning community and will be included as part of this grade.

The state of Tennessee requires that all English 9 students take the English 9 End of Course (EOC) Test in the spring. **This test is 25% of your child's English 9 grade.**

If a student is absent or needs to check on assignments, it is his or her responsibility to make up missing work in accordance with the deadlines outlined in the syllabus. If there are questions about an assignment or additional materials that the student needs, arrangements need to be made for a time to come after school. Instructional time will not be used to do this.

Please see the student handbook for the University School policy regarding plagiarism.

Late work policy: Please see the Policy for High School English Department which is posted on the web page. This is extremely important to your child's success.

Classroom Rules

- * Come on time to class and find a seat before the bell rings. You will not be allowed to return to your locker once class begins.
- * Be fully present in class. Reading materials unrelated to class, doing homework for another class, napping, talking to your friends, passing notes, playing on the calculator, tardies, etc. will cost you participation points. Ipods and cell phones are not allowed in class.
- * You are responsible for and expected to give your very best work. In order to be successful in this class, you will be expected to complete all homework and class assignments.
- * Listen.
- * Respect the dignity and worth of every person in the classroom. This includes your peers, your teacher, and the perspectives of those individuals studied in class. Use "I" statements in class discussion.

