

English 9 Honors Syllabus

Mrs. Brusky

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Required Materials: Green Literature Prentice Hall textbook, Prentice Hall Writing and Grammar textbook, loose-leaf paper, pens (no pencils), 2-pocket folder, access to computer, ink for personal printer (if applicable), index cards (any size), single-subject notebook, folder or binder for handouts.

Philosophy of English 9 Honors: Any honors class requires more of you than you probably expect. Riverside's philosophy is that you come with the desire to know how to write better, read more creatively, and expand the boundaries in which your mind currently functions. This class is designed to prepare you for advanced English classes in the future. Your attendance and attentiveness are mandatory.

Class Expectations: All students are expected to consistently record their assignments and abide by the due dates. There will be assignments almost every day, as well as long-term essays each marking period and reading assignments. Less excuses and more effort will always lead to greater productivity. Prepare for the unexpected, and problems will be limited. Students must also take responsibility for choices they make in and out of the classroom. If there are problems, questions, or concerns, students are expected to approach me in a timely manner so I can help before a due date has arrived. Communicate with me before or after class and use my email diligently (Parents are welcome to use my email as well).

Grades: All assignments are given a point value. Tests and major essays will be weighted heavier than quizzes and vocabulary assignments. All major assignments will be explained through a rubric. At the end of each marking period, the possible points will be totaled and averaged for a percentage. Team 2 follows the same grading scale:

100-93 = A

92-85 = B

84-73 = C

72-65 = D

64-0 = U

Per Riverside policy, students who are absent six or more times during a marking period should not expect to earn more than a C.

Late Work: I will not accept late work except under the following conditions:

- 1) The student has an **excused** absence (see handbook for the criteria). In this case, the student will be allowed up to two days upon their return to show an excused absence. **It is the responsibility of the student to come see me for the missed work when they return to school.**

Missed work will be explained outside of regular class time.
Advisories and after school are the best times to get one-on-one assistance.

- 2) Upon my absence, I do not want students to give assignments to the substitute teacher. If I have an absence, the students will turn in their work when I return to school.

Make-up tests and quizzes: No student may retake a quiz or test for an improved score. Scores may be curved if the class has scored below my expected outcome. Students will always have the opportunity to rework an essay, however, for a higher grade.

Paper requirements: (MLA format) Most papers may be handwritten. However, students will practice word processing for the sake of increasing typing skills. Please know that upper level English classes may only accept typed essays, and colleges/universities expect it. All English classes expect MLA format: Times New Roman, 12-point, double-spaced, one-inch margins. Remember that the title is centered and also 12-point font.

Possible Reading Selections:

A Raisin in the Sun

Of Mice and Men

Romeo and Juliet

Odyssey

Animal Farm

Flowers for Algernon

Black Elk Speaks

***selections of short stories and poetry**

Terms for English 9

Abstract words	comedy	foreshadowing	onomatopoeia
Action verbs	conflict	hyperbole	oxymoron
Alliteration	couplet	imagery	plot
Anecdote	connotation	inference	point of view
Antagonist	denotation	internal rhyme	prose
Antecedent	end rhyme	irony	protagonist
Aside	euphemism	literal	repetition
Blank verse	exposition	major support	rhythm
Catastrophe	expository writing	metaphor	rising action
Character	falling action	minor support	resolution
Characterization	fiction	monologue	simile
Clause	figurative language	narrative	stanza
Climax	flashback	nonfiction	tragedy

Keys to Success:

1. Plan for due dates. Assignments will not be accepted after I have collected them.
2. Use the orange planner to write down important information and homework. The assignment will always be written on the front chalkboard.
3. When absent, contact another student from your class as soon as possible. Find out what notes or tests you missed and what you need to talk to the teacher about upon your return.
4. Sports and other obligations do not excuse you from assignments. Please plan your schedules as necessary.
5. Know where you can access a computer. You will need one for typing major papers as well as using the Internet.
6. Keep your personal electronics out of sight. If your phone happens to ring in your purse/book bag/pocket, apologize and turn it off.
7. Water is a great way to keep up your energy and stay healthy. An energetic brain functions better than one that is not. Bring plastic bottles of water to class.