**English 9**

**Ms. Macko**

**Room: C-216**

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**Class Website:** [**www.msmackoela.weebly.co**](http://www.msmackoela.weebly.com)**m**

**English Department Website:** [**http://www.aaps.k12.mi.us/pioneer.english**](http://www.aaps.k12.mi.us/pioneer.english)

**Course Overview**

English 9 is a two-semester course combining literature, composition, speech, vocabulary, and grammar study. The course will focus on both American and British Literature from a wide variety of authors and eras organized into thematic units. Literature will be addressed in terms of comprehension, analysis and appreciation. The skills focused on- close reading, writing, speaking, listening, and vocabulary building- should help prepare students for upper level English courses, standardized tests and the demands of college and/or the working world.

**Course Texts**

Major Works:

*Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck

*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

*Animal Farm* by George Orwell

*Oedipus* by Sophocles

*Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare

*The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros

**Note:** various selected poems, short stories, nonfiction prose, and films that are thematically related will also supplement this list. Students will also read on or two independent books each semester, some chosen by the student and some by the teacher. The list is not a contract and substitutions, omissions, or additions may be made.

**Student Coursework**

Much of the work for this class will involve careful, close reading of the assignment texts. Students will learn about and practice the writing process in the creation of literary analysis essays. The class will include a minimum of 2.5 hours online.

Along with the analytical essays, students should expect the following assignments:

Vocabulary assignments and vocabulary tests

A major composition and/or project or presentation for each unit

Regular comprehension quizzes and/or objective tests on readings

Frequent small and large group discussions of literature and issues related to it

Frequent grammar lessons and quizzes

Sustained in class oral and silent reading

**Classroom Expectations**

***Academic***

1. Meet assignment deadlines and have assigned readings completed for class each day that they are due.
2. Participate meaningfully in class discussions and group work every day.
3. Come to class prepare with paper, pens/pencils, and any necessary material (novel, project materials, etc.) every day.
4. Attend class regularly; poor attendance and low grades will have an impact on your grade in this class.
5. Class time will regularly be used for reading, writing, working on grammar and vocabulary assignments, receiving assistance from myself, and other work related to the class. Students who do not use this time but instead work on assignments for other classes, unrelated talk, sleep, or engage in other inappropriate behavior will receive participation grades lowered to the extent of this behavior and may lose credit for the assignment.
6. Academic Integrity- Plagiarism is the use of others’ ideas and/or exact or closely paraphrased words without giving explicit credit. Plagiarism may be in writing or in speech. Plagiarism will result in a grade of zero and parents and administration will be notified, as well. The same holds true for copying the homework assignment or quiz of another student or allowing another student to copy your work.

***Behavioral***

1. Respect the views and property of all others in the room
2. Be polite and listen when others are speaking. This means that you are not talking when anyone else (myself or a classmate) is talking in whole group discussions.
3. Throw your trash away in the trash can. Do not leave behind papers, water bottles, or other trash for someone else to clean up!
4. No eating food in class. With many food allergies among people today and some are severe, I do not allow eating in my class. If you have a medical issue such as diabetes that requires to eat at certain times, please talk with me and we will develop a plan to keep everyone safe.
5. No cell phones, iPods/ headphones, or other electronic devices may be used in class. The teacher may confiscate any device that is visible and a disruption to the classroom.
6. The bell does not dismiss the class. The teacher will dismiss the class when all instruction is completed. You will not line up at the door in anticipation of the bell. You will need to be in your assigned seat prior to dismissal.

***Absences and Tardies***

1. All unexcused absences will be reported to the attendance office. Assignments missed due to an unexcused absence are recorded as zeros.
2. You are expected to be in class on time every day. You will have a warm up to complete each day which will be projected onto the front board. You are expected to start the warm up without my prompting.
3. In the event of an excused absence, in-class assignments and tests must be made up within two days of returning to class, except in the case of extended illnesses. It is your responsibility to make up this work. After two days have passed, the assignment score will be recorded as a zero. If you are absent the day before a test, you will still be expected to the test the next day as tests are announced well in advance. If you are absent the day a major assignment is due, it is still expected to be turned in on the assigned due date. Essays and other computer based assignments should be emailed to me prior to your class time. Any physical projects such as posters or speeches will be due the day you return to class. Check the class website to see what you have missed or call/text a “study buddy” if you are absent! Make every effort to keep up with the class within reason.

Study Buddy #1 Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Study Buddy #2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Grading and Assignments***

1. For major assignments, such as essays, you will receive detailed handouts outlining the assignment’s requirements. Read them!
2. All major writing assignments will be typed, double spaced, and using standard MLA conventions (12pt font, Times New Roman, 1 inch margins)
3. You will be graded on several formal writing assignments using increasingly sophisticated writing style, as well as shorter in-class writing assignments.
4. There is no guarantee that extra credit will be offered during this class. If it is offered, the entire class will have the opportunity to earn the extra credit. Extra credit is not given by student request and should not be asked for.
5. All major assignments will be graded on a point scale which converts to a letter grade according to the following percentage point scale.

Grading Scale

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 100 A+ | 87-89 B+ | 77-79 C+ | 67-69 D+ | Below 59 E |
| 93-99 A | 83-86 B | 73-76 C | 63-66 D |  |
| 90-92 A- | 80-82 B- | 70-72 C- | 60-62 D- |  |

Semester grades are calculated by averaging the two quarter grades (weighted at 40% each) and the final exam (weighted at 20%). By the end of the course, each student will prepare a portfolio of selected work from the course. This portfolio will serve as an important part of the final student evaluation along with demonstrating proficiency in an on-demand composition and SRI reading test scores. Successful completion of this portfolio assessment is required to receive credit of the course.

**Late Work**

1. All homework assignments are due at the beginning of class for full credit. Late homework assignments will only be accepted one day late for 50% credit. After 2 days, the assignment is graded as a zero.
2. Major writing assignments and projects will be accepted late, with a 10% score reduction for each day late. After one week, missing assignments will be recorded as zeros.
3. If you assigned a presentation/speech project and you are not ready/chose not to go when you are chosen, you will not receive credit for the project unless arrangements have been made with the teacher. You need to be ready for your presentation on the **first** day of speeches.

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I have read and understand the course requirements and expectations for English 9.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Name (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Any Concerns or Things I Should Know? (Long responses can be attached if needed)