

Welcome to Mrs. Mitchell's Class!

English 9 Syllabus

Email: kmitchell@jajags.com

Office Hours: Mon. - Wed. & Fri. after school and by appt.

Welcome back! I am thrilled to be a part of this marvelous journey we call freshman year. English will take you places you've never been by opening a world of possibilities with writing and literature and challenge you to become more sophisticated writers, readers, and thinkers.

Professional Mission Statement: As an English teacher, I will conduct myself with great professionalism and a positive attitude. I will use best practices for instruction and assessment, communicate clearly and effectively, and collaborate with families, communities, and colleagues.

Course Description: Freshman English is a comprehensive course of literature, composition, and language, including listening and speaking. Our study of literature will include reading, rereading, discussing, comprehending, and writing about a wide variety of texts to answer the essential questions of each unit. We will examine writing as a process of prewriting, drafting, peer and teacher editing, and revising. Additionally, vocabulary development, grammar, and mechanics will be integrated into the literature and composition components.

Required Materials:

- laptop or chromebook
- 1 composition notebook for journal entries
- 1 folder
- pens and/or pencils
- highlighter
- 1 pack of loose-leaf paper in folder or binder

Units of Study:

Unit 1 - American Voices/This I Believe Essay and Presentation

Unit 2 – Survival/*Lord of the Flies*

Unit 3 - The Literature of Civil Rights/*Warriors Don't Cry*/Expository Essay and Presentation

Unit 4 – Star-Crossed Romances/*Romeo and Juliet*

Unit 5 – Journeys of Transformation

Unit 6 – World's End/*Fahrenheit 451*

Grading Categories:

Making Meaning: make meaning of the text through close reading and analysis 15%

Language Development: concept vocabulary words in conjunction with each text, vocabulary.com, grammar, mechanics 15%

Effective Expression: speaking, feedback, writing 30%

Summative Assessments 30%

Final Examination: 10%

Expectations:

RESPECT YOURSELF – Strive for outstanding attendance, bring all necessary supplies every day, be an active participant, and abide by the schoolwide dress code.

RESPECT OTHERS – Actively listen, be on time, no use of profanity. Words travel fast. Think before you speak.

RESPECT PROCEDURES AND SCHOOLWIDE POLICIES – Take your safety and the safety of others seriously. Electronic devices offer many opportunities to waste time. Laptops and chromebooks may only be used for academic purposes! Please place your phone in the cell phone holder upon entering the classroom. You may leave one at a time to use the restroom or get a drink at my discretion. All students must use the sign-in/sign-out log. Please review the electronics usage, (p.20) tardiness, (p.16), makeup work, (p.15) and plagiarism policies (p. 11) in the Student/Parent Handbook. Intentional plagiarism and cheating will result in a zero.

RESPECT OUR CLASSROOM – NO FOOD, but please bring a water bottle. I allow gum, but I don't want to see or hear it.

Academic Policies:

Homework: Homework is due the next day that class meets unless otherwise stated. Other students are dependent on your work being on time (projects, peer review workshops, etc.). I understand that you have a life outside of the classroom, so if you know you will be unable to complete an assignment by the due date, please speak with me ahead of time. If you approach me the day the assignment is due and ask for an extension, the answer will be no.

Late Work: I don't accept late work unless you've asked and received an extension beforehand.

Last, but certainly not least, I'm looking forward to being your teacher and helping you get through your first year of high school! I'm also looking forward to meeting your families. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time with questions, comments, concerns, or suggestions. The best way to reach me is by email: kmitchell@jajags.com.

Please indicate that you have read and agree to this syllabus by signing the attached sheet and returning it by Monday, January 13. Thank you.

Mrs. Mitchell

We have read, understand, and agree to the terms of this syllabus for Mrs. Mitchell's 9th grade English class.

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____