**Ms. Betts’**

**Advanced 9th Grade English Syllabus**

**Contact Information**:

[abby.betts@elmoreco.com](mailto:abby.betts@elmoreco.com)

Room 611

**Google Classroom Code:**

2nd: 7qkc7uq

4th: kztnm5y

5th: t6e76rb

**Remind Code:**

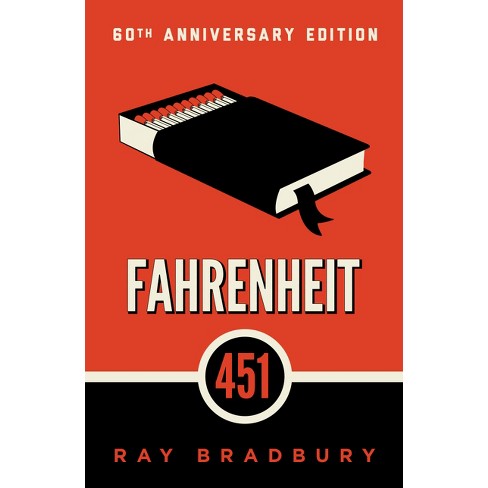
@bettsadve

Office hours for remind contact will be active until 4:00 Monday-Friday. NO MESSAGES WILL BE ADDESSED ON WEEKENDS. You will not receive a reply to messages past 4:00 until the following week day, or until Monday if you try to initiate contact on the weekend.

**Course Description**:

In Advanced 9th Grade English, we will be reading four major works: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, *The Odyssey* by Homer, *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare, and *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. These works will be the main focus of each nine weeks of the school year, but we will also be reading various selections of short stories and poetry throughout the year.

This year we will focus on developing students’ writing skills to ensure they have a strong foundation throughout high school. Additionally, I find it crucial to ensure that students have a firm grasp on the basic elements of literature (especially literary devices) so that students have the tools they need to succeed in English classrooms in high school and college. Given that this is an advanced track of English study, there will be a larger amount of writing that students will be required to produce in this class, including a research paper. The goal of this course is to prepare students for advanced levels of study throughout high school and to introduce students to college preparatory writing skills and higher levels of literary analysis.

****

**Advanced English 9 Class Materials**

* Loose Leaf Paper
* 3-ring Binder (can share with another class)
* AT LEAST **125** 3X5 Note cards
* AT LEAST one black or blue pen
* ANY hard copy of Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*
* 6oth Anniversary Edition of Ray Bradbury’s *Fahrenheit 451* (See image)

**Tentative Course Content:**

**1st Nine Weeks:**

• Edgar Allan Poe’s “The Cask of Amontillado”

• Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*

• Langston Hughes’ “Dreams” and “Dream Deferred”

• Maya Angelou’s “I know why the caged bird

• Georgia Douglas Johnson’s “Common Dust”

• Natasha Trethewey’s “Elegy for the Native Guards”

• Robert Hayden’s “The Whipping”

• Homer’s *The Odyssey*

• William Carlos Williams’ “Landscape with the Fall of Icarus”

• Margaret Atwood’s “Eurydice”

• Linda Pastan’s “You are Odysseus”

• Margaret Atwood’s “Siren Song”

**2nd Nine Weeks:**

• Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*

• Robert Frost’s “The Silken Tent”

• William Shakespeare’s “The Seven Ages of Man”

• William Shakespeare’s “Sonnet 138”

• E.E. Cummings’ “here is little Effie’s head”

• Robert Frost’s “Fire and Ice”

• John Clare’s “I Am!”

• Ray Bradbury’s *Fahrenheit 451*

• Emily Dickinson’s “After great pain, a formal feeling comes”

• Walt Whitman’s “No Labor-Saving Machine”

• Edgar Allan Poe’s “Sonnet—To Science”

**RESEARCH PAPER**

At the end of the semester, we will conclude our studies of our main four novels with a lengthy research paper. Students will receive a detailed packet for further information on the research paper closer to the due date. THIS ASSIGNMENT WILL COUNT FOR MULTIPLE TEST GRADES. PREPARE!!! Absolutely NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED. Plagiarism will result in an AUTOMATIC ZERO (see cheating/ plagiarism section of classroom procedures).

**Classroom Procedures:**

**Missing/ Late Work**

If you are absent from class for any reason, YOU WILL STILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR GOOGLE CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS, ASSESSMENTS, AND SCHEDULED READINGS IF ABSENT.

Follow the WEEKLY PLANS of assignments and assessments posted to google classroom to keep on track of due dates.

Watch your google classroom home page for reminders and posted due dates of major assignments and long-term projects.

Late work will only be accepted through the end of each unit of instruction. The unit ends on the last test or essay day before beginning the next unit. Any late work submitted from past units will not be accepted. Major projects submitted late will only be graded for half-credit.

**Timeliness**

If a student is not in my classroom by the time the bell rings, they will be marked tardy for the class. There is a tardy log in my classroom which the student will then have to sign if they are tardy to class. If a student in first block is tardy, I will send them directly to the office, and they will not be permitted to return to my classroom until they show me the pass they have received from the main office.

**Bathroom Visits/ Leaving the Classroom during Instruction**

Our classroom is located directly across from the bathroom in our building, so students should not be frequently asking to leave my classroom to use the restroom (unless I have been notified of a student’s documented medical needs. Only one student is allowed to leave a classroom at a time, and therefore only one student from our classroom may go to the bathroom at a time.

Students will receive five passes out of the room each nine weeks to use at their discretion to prevent missing assignments and instruction as much as possible.

**Cell Phones**

Cell phones are not to be seen or heard during my class during instruction or during assignments. If a student is using their phone in class, or their phone goes off in class, I will contact an administrator immediately and process an office referral that will result in the student progressing through the school’s discipline policy for phone usage.

**Classroom Disruptions**

If students cause classroom disruptions in the form of excessive talking or other off-task behaviors, I will follow the progression of behavior management and consequences outlined in the district’s discipline policy.

**Cheating/Plagiarism**

(Following information laid out by the Elmore County Curriculum Guide)

Any student discovered to be plagiarism part or the whole of a graded assignment will receive a zero for that assignment. Plagiarism may consist of but is not limited to copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit, failing to put a quotation in quotation marks, giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation, changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit, or copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not.

**Classroom Library**

Independent reading, even if it is reading books that are considered “pleasure” reading is incredibly valuable to students’ development in the English language arts. I strongly encourage outside of class reading if a student has time to do so, and I have a small personal library in my classroom to encourage students to continue reading outside the classroom. Students are welcome to check out books from me if the book is not available in the school’s library. They will sign a check-out log posted by the classroom library.

**Exams Exemptions:**

(Following information laid out by the Elmore County Curriculum Guide) Each grading period counts toward 45% of the semester average. Final exams count toward 10% of the semester average. The first semester and second semester averages will be averaged to arrive at a final average for the course. To be exempt from the final exam, students must meet the following criteria:

• an “A” average with no more than two (2) excused absences

• a “B” average with no more than one (1) excused absence

• a “C” average with no absences

If students have three or more tardies, they cannot exempt.

Students will not be able to be exempt from exams if they have skipped a class period or school day, if they have been assigned to In School Suspension for five or more days, if they have been suspended, or if they have been assigned to the Elmore County Alternative Program.

School-authorized field trips, a college visit with proper documentation, or military absences with proper documentation do not count as absences toward suspension.

**I have read this syllabus and agree to abide by the listed policies and classroom procedures.**

**Student’s Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**I have read this syllabus and understand that my student will be held accountable for abiding by the listed policies and classroom procedures.**

**Parent/Guardian’s Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian’s Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian’s Preferred Method(s) of Contact:**

**PARENTS ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO JOIN OUR REMIND.**

**1. Call:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**2. Text:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**3. Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**4. Other:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**