

Syllabus

Honors English 9

Mrs. Ashley Fitch

rm. 117

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Goal: In alignment with the state of Tennessee's course of study standards, English 9 will "prepare students with the most important knowledge and 21st century literacy skills necessary to succeed in postsecondary and workforce arenas." The course will "emphasize critical and divergent thinking, problem solving, active listening, recognition of patterns and anomalies, and evaluating and questioning of source material." (TDOE Standards Description)

Additional assignments, including reading, research, writing, and projects will be required for honors students.



Materials

These are items that you will be using in class most days

- Binder** (with paper, dividers, and handouts)
- Chromebook** (charged BEFORE class)
- Current Text**
- Pen, Pencil, and Highlighters**
- Colored pen for editing**
- Optional supplies:** post-it notes, ruler, art supplies



Texts and Units of Study

Embedded Units will be integrated throughout the semester and will build on skills in primary units

- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
- *The Odyssey* by Homer and the hero's journey
- Independent reading project
- Thematic textbook units

Embedded Units of Study

- Writing
- Vocabulary and grammar
- Poetry and short stories
- Nonfiction and historical texts



Google Classroom Reminders

- Notifications turned **ON**
- Always hit **SUBMIT** on assignments
- Check for Daily Agenda / Upcoming Assignments
- Work is considered late based on the timestamp and edit history of the document.



Absences and Makeup Work

- If you are absent from class, YOU are responsible for getting and making up any missing work
 - The school's policy on makeup work will be observed. As stated in the student handbook, the policy is as follows:
 - "All makeup work will be turned in to teachers within three (3) days of absence. ABSOLUTELY NO MAKEUP WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 3 DAYS! Any work not completed and turned in will result in a zero grade. For multiple consecutive absences, the teacher and student will meet together to determine a fair due date of the missed assignments."
 - See me during before or after class or during break - **not during class** - to get help, ask questions about missing work, or schedule make up tests/quizzes
 - Pick up work from the designated spot for makeup work, and check Google Classroom.



Late Work

- Late work may be turned in the following day for a 20% penalty. After that, it will be marked as a zero.
- Work submitted online will be considered late if it was edited or submitted after the due date.



Procedures and Expectations

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→ Be on time



- Be in the room (and in your seat) when the bell rings. Begin working on the first assignment of the day.

→ Respect my time

- Take care of any personal business before or after class. Passes out will be limited to emergencies.

→ Respect others

- When others are speaking, be quiet. Raise your hand to speak.
- If you can't be kind, it's best to be quiet.

→ Stay on task



- Class periods are short. We will work from bell to bell. Be ready to begin when class starts, and I will tell you when it is time to pack up to leave.

→ Don't be gross

- Clean up after yourself, and leave your area (and the room) as neat or neater than you found it.

→ Non-negotiables



- The following are not allowed in my classroom:
 - Phones
 - Earbuds
 - Hats or hoods
- These are MY rules. **IT DOES NOT MATTER WHAT THE OTHER CLASSES/TEACHERS ARE DOING.**

→ Rules > Opinion



- I must abide by the school system rules as well as the school rules; you must abide by those rules as well as the rules of my classroom—regardless of how you feel about them.



Consequences

If a student chooses not to meet these expectations, the following consequences will be followed:

- Verbal Warning
- Parent Contact
- Administrative Referral

The order of these consequences may be altered as necessary to fit the situation.



Cheating

→ Just don't. Seriously.

→ I expect your work to be original, and plagiarism will not be tolerated under any circumstances

→ **You will receive a zero for any assignments that are plagiarized, a write up, and a parent contact.**

Is it plagiarism? A quiz:

- Did you, at any point, copy and paste it from the internet?
 - A: Yes.**
- Is it someone else's ideas that you reworded?
 - A: Yes.**
- Did you take another student's work and reword it?
 - A: Yes**



Heartbeats

"Life isn't measured in minutes, but in heartbeats." - Joan Lowery Nixon

"I believe that every human has a finite number of heartbeats. I don't intend to waste any of mine." - Neil Armstrong

MAKE EVERY HEARTBEAT IN THIS ROOM MATTER – THAT IS MY COMMITMENT TO YOU, AND I EXPECT THE SAME IN RETURN. THIS IS GOING TO BE A GREAT YEAR!

Love, Mrs. Fitch