

English Department Syllabus – LA 9 Honors

FRESHMAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS
HONORS LEVEL (LA9H)
1 CREDIT – FRESHMAN ENGLISH REQUIRED

9th GRADE HONORS FRESHMAN ENGLISH
TEXTS

A. Kinsella, Kate, et al. Prentice Hall Literature: Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes: Gold Level. Glenview, Illinois: Pearson Education, Inc., 2002.

B. Lee, Harper *To Kill a Mockingbird* New York : Grand Central, 1982

C. Zusak, Markus *The Book Thief* New York: Knopf, 2016

D. Hinds, *The Odyssey*: Candlewick, 2010

PREREQUISITES

Students must have passed 8th grade language arts.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Goals of literature for the HONORS LEVEL of FRESHMAN ENGLISH GRAMMAR,

COMPOSITION, & LITERATURE include having the student evaluate literature, relate and empathize to the works read, and develop a taste for quality literature. Major goals for composition and grammar include recognition and application of the eight parts of speech, phrases and clauses, punctuation, grammar rules, and sentence structure. Students will also be expected to use these skills to create and to evaluate original compositions.

Transfer of grammar knowledge to communication skills is stressed in paragraph construction and formal, academic writing.

Discussion and analysis of each work read is designed to help the student evaluate what constitutes good literature. Students are expected to participate in daily class discussions and contribute positively to the learning environment. Vocabulary is taught as a composition and communication tool.

In addition the students are introduced to the library facilities. Research tools and resources are studied. Approximately 4-6 book reports are required during the year.

COURSE CONTENT

First Semester

A. THE SHORT STORY

1. Connel "The Most Dangerous Game"
2. Poe "The Cask of Amontillado"
3. Maupassant "The Necklace"
4. Bambara "Blues Ain't no Mockingbird"

B. NOVELS

1. Lee - *To Kill a Mockingbird*
2. Zusak – *The Book Thief*

C. BOOK REPORTS

1. Novel
2. Historical Fiction

D. Novella

1. Kafka, *The Metamorphosis*

D. RESEARCH

1. Informational

SECOND SEMESTER

A. NONFICTION

1. Ride – "Single Room, Earth View" (optional)
2. Singer – "The Washerwoman"
3. Hansberry – "On Summer" (optional)
4. Johnson - "from A White House Diary"
5. McPhee – "Arthur Ashe Remembered"
6. Didion – "Georgia O'Keeffe"
7. CommonLit - online

B. . GENRE: DRAMA

1. Shakespeare - Romeo and Juliet

C. . GENRE: POETRY

1. Wordsworth – “I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud”
2. Hughes – “Dream Deferred”
3. Hughes – “Dreams”
4. Tennyson – “The Eagle”
5. Dickinson – “Hope”
6. Myers – “Summer”
7. Poe – “The Raven”
8. Shakespeare - “The Seven Ages of Man”

D. GENRE: THE EPIC

1. Homer –Odyssey

E. RESEARCH

1. Shakespeare
2. Argument

F. BOOK REPORTS

1. Nonfiction
2. Magical Realism, Science Fiction, Fantasy, or Novel in Verse

GRADES

Final course grades may include the following forms of assessment: daily work, class participation, quizzes, exams, projects, essays/compositions, oral presentations, technology-based presentations, portfolios, semester final exams, and alternative assessments as determined by individual instructors.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Common Core State Standards ELA 9-10

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS

Students will write essays and short research papers, with an emphasis on formal, academic writing techniques and MLA format. Such assignments could include:

Research and describe an author or historical context of a work of literature

Research and evaluate the merits of a work of literature

Research and describe a place

Critique of literary analysis

Presentation of research or writing

Student-led small group discussions