

Grade 9 English
MR. MURPHY
jmurphy@csh.k12.ny.us
631-367-6832

The Nature of the Course:

English 9 is designed to strengthen the student's ability in the basic skill areas of reading, writing and use of language. Time is spent to learn and use shared inquiry as a method of exploring and gaining an understanding of the power of the written word and literature's ability to aid in social awareness and self-discovery.

The Aims of the Course:

- to develop the students' abilities to read critically, analytically, and sensitively, and to articulate their responses to their reading in verbal and written form.
- to introduce students to the major genres and forms of literature.
- to explore the ways in which selected intellectual, moral and cultural issues are raised and addressed in literature.
- to encourage the improvement of writing skills.

A word about grading, homework and being prepared for class:

- Tests, quizzes, homework, writing responses, and class participation are given point totals. Total points earned are divided by the total possible points to obtain a grade for the quarter. Class participation is urged to obtain the highest possible grade; therefore, attendance in class is essential. Cuts on a quiz or test day will result in a zero for that exam. Students who have a legitimate absence for missing a quiz or a test must make arrangements to take the exam in a timely fashion.
- Students are required to do several homework assignments per week. If a student fails to hand in homework assignments on time, his/her grade will be reduced for the marking period. Students are expected to report to class with all material needed for that day's assignment. Student who are not prepared for class will lose points for class participation.

A sample of the texts we will use (others may be added or substituted):

- *Top Ten Short Stories*
- *Designs in Fiction*
- *Twelve Angry Men (Rose)*
- *Of Mice and Men (Steinbeck)*
- *Lord of the Flies (Golding)*
- *Romeo and Juliet (Shakespeare)*
- *To Kill a Mockingbird (Lee)*
- *Sadlier/Oxford Vocabulary Workbook*
- *A selection of short stories, essays, poems and video*
- *Grammar Workbook*