



Cold Spring Harbor High School

Welcome to Back to School Night and English 9. Ninth grade is conducted as a seminar, which means we spend most of our time sitting in a circle to foster an exchange of ideas and thoughts on literature and how our work in class connects to life outside of academia. Together our focus is on improving reading and writing skills, enhancing study strategies, boosting creativity, expanding vocabulary, and using technology to enhance learning and thinking.

Keys to Success in English 9

- ⇨ Demonstrate respect for yourself and others at all times
- ⇨ Arrive on time and prepared for class
- ⇨ Be an active participant in class discussions
- ⇨ Complete your work in a timely manner
- ⇨ Maintain clear and accurate notes



Readings:

Our work this year will include vocabulary packets, grammar books, short stories, poetry, plays, non-fiction, and novels. Studied works include, but are not limited to: *Lord of the Flies*, *Of Mice and Men*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *Romeo and Juliet*.

Grading Procedures:

Grades will be based upon participation, essays, tests, quizzes, projects, and homework. Please note, essays receive two distinct grades, one for content and one for mechanics, and are thus the most extensive evaluative tool at 200 points total. Tests are worth 100 points, quizzes vary from 10-50 points, projects and activities will range in point value, and homework and participation are, of course, factored into the student's overall grade.

Extra Help:

I am available before and after school by appointment.

Homework/Missed Work:

Homework is not intended as cruel and unusual punishment. Its purpose is to support in-class work and assist each individual in growing as a student of the English language. Unless specifically indicated, students know that homework is a solo effort. Essays must be submitted on time, typed (unless specified otherwise) in 12 point Times New Roman font with one inch margins and stapled together. The expectation is that if a student is absent, he/she will contact a responsible classmate for any missed work. If a student is absent for an extended period of time, or due to extenuating circumstances, it is his/her responsibility to see me in a timely fashion and we will discuss an appropriate course of action that student to make-up missed work.

* A note about printer/computer problems: I have spoken with all of my classes regarding the dreaded printer problems that can occur. In an effort to avoid the stress associated with a printer or computer that does not do what it needs to at the last minute, a few suggestions. 1) Please have an extra printing cartridge at home and ready to roll 2) Students can save files on a disk/thumb drive and print a document at school, prior to class 3) Students may e-mail another student their document and have that student print it 4) Students may e-mail me.

Academic Integrity:

All students will receive a full class period presentation on plagiarism and are informed of the following:

Cheating implies dishonesty or deception in fulfilling your academic requirements and calls into question your personal character. Cheating includes plagiarism and copying someone else's work or writing assignments. If it is determined that you are violating this code of conduct you will receive a zero on the assignment. Additionally, if it is determined that you knowingly let another student copy your work you will receive a zero for that assignment. Please remember, a positive reputation can be greatly tarnished by any inappropriate act.

*Plagiarism is the act of passing off someone else's work as your own or using someone else's words or ideas without quoting the source. If you are not sure what to do, cite the reference. Simply paraphrasing someone else's work is still plagiarism, so do not assume that because you changed a few words you have freed yourself of the offense of plagiarism – you have not. When in doubt, credit the source!