Program in America and California Exploration (PACE) offers students a four-year advanced academic program with an emphasis in English and history. The goal is to ensure that all PACE graduates are prepared to attend and succeed at competitive four-year colleges and universities.

Course Description
This semester-length course is developed for students seeking a challenge in the area of English Language Arts. Materials and assignments are designed to lay the groundwork for students who are interested in taking the AP test in their junior or senior year. This course will move at a rapid pace and students will be expected to perform at a high level. Regardless of these high expectations students can expect a fun and enlightening semester.

Books
Texts include: the Holt anthology Elements of Literature 3rd Course, the Holt writing skills text Elements of Writing 3rd Course, The Write Source, Magic Lens Grammar and Prestwick House Vocabulary Power Plus, and the following novels: The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian, Grapes of Wrath and I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings and the Shakespeare’s The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet. Excerpts from articles, advertising and film will supplement. Other selections from Recommended Literature, Grades Nine through Twelve may be included in the curriculum. TAKE CARE OF YOUR TEXTS! They are your responsibility.

Course Curriculum
The curriculum for this class is drawn from the California Common Core State Standards, which are divided into four areas of study: Reading, Writing, Oral and Written Language (including Grammar), and Listening/Speaking. The units of study are designed and organized to address all of the standards for English grade 9P. We will be accessing these standards through a study of vocabulary, short stories, grammar, elements of literature, novels, plays, and poetry. For a complete list of the CA Standards for ELA, please visit www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/finalelacssssstandards.pdf
Grading Policy
This course requires daily reading and writing. Writing tasks range from short, timed quick writes to longer pieces that are taken through the writing process and may take a week or more to complete. Longer writing pieces are evaluated using English department-wide rubrics.

In addition, there will be daily grammar assessments (warm up) and weekly vocabulary tests.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>Grading Percentages*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A 90-100%</td>
<td>Writing Assignments 40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B 80-89.9%</td>
<td>Tests &amp; Quizzes 25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C 70-79.9%</td>
<td>Homework, Classwork 25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D 60-69.9%</td>
<td>PACE Requirements 10%</td>
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<td>F 0-59.9%</td>
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Final Copies of Formal Writing
Final copies of papers, essays, and projects will be word-processed in MLA format unless otherwise specified. We will go over MLA format in class, and it is also detailed in the Holt Handbook. Students will use blue/black ink or pencil to complete all other assignments.

Attendance/Tardy Policies
Every student is expected to attend every class on time every day unless the student is required to be absent for a valid excuse. Truancy, unverified and unexcused absences, excessive absences, and tardies affect the students’ education and increase the chances for failure. Tardies interrupt and interfere with the learning environment for all students and the teaching opportunities for teachers.

Supplies
Students will need to bring the following items to class with them each day
- All students are required to have a separate binder (at least 1”) for English class. I will check this binder periodically for correctly divided sections, completion of work, and neatness. You will receive more information about the binder separately.

  **NOTE: Bring binder every day!**
- Pencils and pens (dark blue and/or black ink only, please)
- Textbook(s) or current reading materials
- Highlighters, glue sticks, post-it notes can be useful in class but are not required

Class Expectations
1. Be on time, prepared and ready to go with all required materials when the bell rings.
2. Be respectful of your teacher, your classmates, other teachers and administrators, your school, and anything that does not belong to you. Disrespect in any form will result in disciplinary action.
3. Turn off and put away all electronic devices. Desks should also be clear of purses, backpacks, and clothing.
4. Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty will not be tolerated. (See plagiarism/Cheating Policy on the next page)
5. Participate, take risks, and do not be afraid to make mistakes!

**Final Copies of Formal Writing**

Final copies of papers, essays, and projects will be word-processed in MLA format unless otherwise specified. We will go over MLA format in class, and it is also detailed in the Holt Handbook. Students will use blue/black ink or pencil to complete all other assignments. All material submitted will be retained by the instructor. Should you desire copies of submitted materials, duplicate copies before submission. The principal reserves the right to modify and/or change the course syllabus as needed during the course.

**Late or Missing Work:**

1. Late homework is not accepted. (However, if you have an EXCUSED absence and present a readmit slip, you will be able to make up that work) For large projects, presentations, and writing assignments, 10% will be deducted from the grade for each day it is late.
2. Since homework counts as a part of your grade, keep returned papers at home, in a folder, or in a binder. There are two reasons for this:
   1) to review notes/homework before a test
   2) to have proof of completed assignments.
3. If an absence is planned in advance, arrange to have someone turn in your work for you. It is the student’s responsibility to contact their peer partner or email the teacher about work missed during an excused unplanned absence. Make-up work will be accepted when turned in within two days for each excused absence. Please ask me for work you may have missed immediately after an absence, NOT during class time. I am also usually in my room during lunch and after school to help with assignments. The student should make arrangements with me **outside of class time** for assistance if needed. Make-up work is not accepted for unexcused absences.

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a. Peer Partner__________________________________________ Phone________
b. Peer Partner__________________________________________ Phone________
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**Plagiarism/Cheating/Academic Dishonesty Policy**

Academic dishonesty is the use of a person’s work, concepts, designs, data ideas, research, or documentation without assigning proper credit to the source. It goes beyond plagiarism to include lying, cheating, providing and/or using unauthorized materials in preparation for an assignment, quiz, or test and/or using and/or providing unauthorized materials during a quiz or test.

Examples of plagiarism/cheating/academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- Looking at someone else’s work product or allowing someone else to look at one’s work product.
- Using any kind of “cheat notes” during a quiz or test.
- Both accidental and purposeful use of quotes, paraphrases, and/or summaries from sources without using necessary quotation marks (within quotes), appropriate
writing guidelines and formats, proper citations, and complete works cited entries or references,

- Giving or receiving any information concerning the content prior to a test or quiz.
  Providing and/or selling an assignment, quiz, and/or test.
- Using an electronic device to provide, receive, store, and/or copy information before, during or after an assignment, quiz, and/or test.
- Copying homework.

Plagiarism is a serious offense that is unacceptable and that will be dealt with accordingly.

Contact Me!
Two ways to contact me for further information:
  Email: Maryjo-Baniecki@scusd.edu
  Telephone: (916) 433-5200 Extension 1306 (This is a voice mailbox. Please leave a message and I will get back to you.)

After reading this syllabus with your parent, please print this page and fill out the section below. (Be sure to print all required information neatly.) Cut off this portion and bring to class by September 8th, 2015

_________________________________  _________________________________
(Printed Student Name)            (Printed Parent Signature)

__________________________________  _________________________________
(Student Signature)                (Parent Signature)

__________________________________  _________________________________
(Student Email)                    (Parent Email)