



JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE SYLLABUS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



ENGLISH 9

English 9 classes approach English Language Arts with an emphasis on building students' reading ability, thinking skills, and sense of efficacy. Students will gain the confidence, experience, and skills critical for literacy success and, most importantly, see themselves as successful students. Our curriculum at JFK English 9 includes independent reading as well as a literacy curriculum designed by Pebble Creek Labs, which emphasizes expository and literary texts aligned to the ELA Common Core State Standards.

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Check grades on Infinite Campus via www.scusd.edu

Texts

Thematically grouped literary and expository texts included in the curriculum (provided by the teacher).
Holt Literature and Language Arts- will be used exclusively in class. Students will not need to bring it home.

Required Materials:

A classroom folder/notebook will be supplied and kept in the classroom.

Grading Policy

All assignments are worth points and grades will be calculated based on the amount of points earned in each category. Most work will be completed in class, during class time. Work will be divided into the following categories:

- **Knowledge (40%)** Demonstration of content knowledge, intended to assess comprehension
- **Product (40%)** Demonstration of task mastery, intended to assess progress towards skills-based objective
- **Process (20%)** Practice necessary towards content and skills mastery, most daily classwork

Course Objectives

In addition to developing and improving the reading, writing, thinking and other literacy skills described in the above course description, students in English 9 will learn academic reading, writing and speaking skills. Attention will be focused on how to interact with text and how to think critically about what you've read. Students will engage in learning that is aligned to the Common Core Standards for the English Language Arts.

Academic Expectations

- **We are here to learn together. We are a community as well as individuals and we should limit distracts from our academic mission, such as texting, eating, drinking, working on other things, sleeping, rude behavior, long walks to the bathroom, etc.**
- **Attendance** is vital. Should you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you've missed. Please ask Ms. Baniecki for work you have missed immediately after an absence, but NOT during class time.
- Completing work on time is critical to ensure learning.
- Students will enter the classroom ready for class. This means removing any hats, hoods, earphones and putting away cellphones or Ipods.
- As soon as the bell rings, students will be reading a student chosen reading book.

Class Rules

- Desks should be cleared of purses, backpacks and clothing.
- No food in class. Water is acceptable.
- Clean up after group and individual projects.