



JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE SYLLABUS
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



ADVANCE ENGLISH 9P (EZS103-3 and EZS103-5)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Advance 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 Advance English 9 includes independent reading as well as a literacy curriculum which emphasizes expository and literary texts aligned to the ELA Common Core State Standards. In addition, students will learn to write a variety of essays and practice reading analysis and comprehension. Vocabulary development and grammar lessons will be integrated into all units. The curriculum for Advance English 9P follows the standards outlined by the new national Common Core State Standards (Grade 9).

David Phanthai

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Check grades on Infinite Campus via www.scusd.edu

Check homework and assignments on class website via <http://dphanthai.tripod.com>

COURSE OBJECTIVES: In addition to developing and improving the reading, writing, thinking and other literacy skills described in the above course description, students in Advance 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 including:

- (1) The powerful use of words and language; the writer's tools and tricks of the trade on how to become a better writer.
- (2) Making sense of grammar, parts of speech, Latin/Greek roots and vocabulary.
- (3) The writing process and various forms of writing (Narrative, Descriptive, Informative/Explanatory, Argumentative, et al).
- (4) Analyze challenging texts, literature, short stories, personal narratives, novels, plays, essays, editorials, speeches, informational texts.

CLASS TEXT:

- Thematically grouped literary and expository texts included in the curriculum (provided by the teacher)
- Holt Literature & Language Arts, Third Course: Holt, Rinehart and Winston
- Novels: *The Pearl*, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, *Z for Zachariah*, *Romeo and Juliet*, various short stories, selected poems, political speeches, and professional essays.

First Quarter Emphasis

- 📖 Plot and Setting
- 📖 Character
- 📖 Narrator and Voice
- 📖 Figurative Language and Poetry
- 📖 Reading and Writing Strategies I

Second Quarter Emphasis

- 📖 Irony and Ambiguity
- 📖 Symbolism and Allegory
- 📖 Comparing Themes
- 📖 Literary Criticism
- 📖 Reading and Writing Strategies II

REQUIRED CLASS MATERIALS:

- Three-ring binder
- Binder paper
- Pencils and blue or black pens
- Highlighters (pink, yellow, green)

You should plan on bringing your books and materials to class every day.

GRADING: Nearly everything in this class is worth points. Your grades will be calculated using a computerized grading program and may be accessed through the student Infinite Campus webpage via the Sacramento City Unified School District's homepage.

Grade Breakdown and Percentages:

Tests and Quizzes (25%) Homework and Class work (40%)
Writing and Projects (25%) Midterm & Final Exam (10%)

The grading scale is given below:

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
100-94	93-90	89-87	86-83	82-80	79-77	76-73	72-70	69-67	66-63	62-60	59-0

HOMEWORK POLICY: No late homework will be accepted unless there are unusual circumstances that must be verified by the student’s parent or guardian. In case of absence, it is the student’s responsibility to get make-up work the day the student returns. Check the designated box and folders for assignments and handouts.

PLAGIARISM/CHEATING: Plagiarism/cheating will be dealt with according to the guidelines in the JFK handbook. All parties involved in the plagiarism/cheating (i.e. the person who copied the work and the person who allowed the work to be copied) will receive a zero for the assignment, test, or quiz. Parents of both parties will be notified and no make-up on the assignment, test, or quiz will be permitted.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:

- (1) 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.
- (2) Attendance is vital. Should you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you’ve missed.
- (3) Completing work on time is critical to ensure learning.
- (4) Students will enter the classroom ready for class. This means removing any hats, hoods, earphones and putting away cellphones or Ipods.

CLASSROOM RULES:

- Be respectful to everyone by listening and participating.
- Be on time, courteous, and prepared to work.
- School rules will also be incorporated and enforced in the classroom (e.g. discipline policy, tardy policy, cheating, plagiarism, etc.)

SUPPORT SERVICES: I am available to assist and help students before and after class. For further questions, you may contact me at (916) 395-5090 (ext. 506217) or by emailing me at david-phanthai@scusd.edu. Also, refer to the class website <http://dphanthai.tripod.com> for more information on class assignments and homework. In addition, I am usually available before and after school in Room C217.

------(Please sign and return)-----

ADVANCE ENGLISH 9P SYLLABUS 2016-2017

I have read and do understand the policies and expectations explained in this course syllabus.

_____	_____	_____
Student Name	Student Signature	Email
_____	_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Name	Parent/Guardian Signature	Email

Upon return of this document, you will receive 10 points.

