



2018--2019 COURSE SYLLABUS

Ms. Missy Wallace

Room C 204
English 9-12

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Within the high school English courses, certain objectives or outcomes are desired. The Common Core website states that “[t]he Common Core asks students to read stories and literature, as well as more complex texts that provide facts and background knowledge in areas such as science and social studies. Students will be challenged and asked questions that push them to refer back to what they’ve read. This stresses critical-thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills that are required for success in college, career, and life” (Core Standards). As such, this class will be focused on developing these reading, comprehension, critical-thinking, problem-solving, and analytical skills. We will engage in literary and informational texts. We will also focus on writing, speaking, listening, and language skills so that our students will become better readers, writers, listeners, and communicators.

As each student has special needs, these class will focus on differentiation so that each student receives the appropriate level of difficulty to ensure he or she is given an attainable challenge. Students will be encouraged to think like authors, to understand the urgency and exigency of communicating, and to build on their weaknesses while showcasing their strengths. We will have a number of small and large projects that reflect these growing skills. Seniors will complete a project that highlights their literacy skills.

Materials

- A folder or binder for collecting and organizing work
- Looseleaf paper or notebook
- Pencils and erasers
- Preferred reading material (school appropriate)

Requirements and Expectations

- Students are welcome to participate in class, particularly in group discussion and small group projects and activities
- Students are encouraged to anticipate absences and work ahead when possible
- Students are encouraged to follow-up with the teacher with missing or late work
- Students are welcome to ask questions when they do not understand or need more information to complete assignments
- Students are encouraged to take their time to ensure clean, neat handwriting to ensure clear communication with the teacher
- Students are welcome to double check their work to ensure fully complete assignments
- Students are welcome to submit original work that conforms to the school’s Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism Policy
- Students are encouraged to dress professionally per the school’s dress code policy
- Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the classroom rules to ensure a positive classroom culture
- Students are welcome to work outside the door, in a buddy classroom, or with the discipline office (per the teacher’s discretion) when their classroom behavior needs further improvement and attention
- Students are encouraged to complete unfinished classwork as homework

Classwork

- We will have regular tests and quizzes in this class to ensure continued growth. If a student misses a quiz or test, he or she is welcome to coordinate with the teacher in order to make it up.
- We will regularly write essays in this class. They will vary in purpose, audience, and message.
- We will practice our speaking skills in class through group discussion and occasional oral presentations.

Grading Practices

This class follows a 10 point grading scale:

100%-90%	=	A
89%-80%	=	B
79%-70%	=	C
69%-60%	=	D
59% and below	=	F

Weights are apportioned as below:

Compositions	=	25%
Quizzes/Test	=	25%
Daily Assignments	=	25%
Participation	=	25%

*please note that individual students’ grade modifications per their IEP (if applicable) will be applied