916.395.5090

HOME OF THE COUGARS

## 2024-2025 COURSE SYLLABUS

English 9 & 12

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**Course Description:** Reading, writing and communicating effectively are absolutely essential to maintaining freedom, justice and dignity in our world. Further, we develop a powerful understanding of ourselves—and our world—by studying literature and other texts. English 9 is a Grammar/Literature based class in the Robotics program, while English 12 is an ERWC and Grammar/Literature based class.

Learning Goals: Students engaged in these courses will grow to be dynamic writers, critical thinkers and strong readers. They will develop the language arts skills necessary to succeed in college, the workplace and society. Students will exhibit mastery of the standards set by the State of California (Common Core). They will be ready to write college-level essays about small and large literature pieces assigned as well as other texts that they will read/use. Each student will learn or improve the ability to comprehend and analyze written work, use grammar appropriately in written assignments, write college level papers, and learn/use core standards at grade level.

**Textbook:** These classes at both levels may use both units from ERWC (12 English) as text materials and various supplemental materials that will be available in Google Classroom. We will use various novels, grammar texts and short reading assignments to develop skills.

**Required Materials:** Along with your computer, or district assigned laptop you will need the ability to log in, run programs, and send back materials for the class. You must be able to upload assignments through Google Classroom to have your work assessed in this class.

**Grading Policy:** We will use the current SCUSD grading scale for this class. The grading scale is as follows:

A 89.5% Up B 79.5%-89.49% C 69.5%-79.49% D 60%-69.49% F 50%-59.99%

Missing Assignment Final Grade Policy: If at the end of the quarter or the semester grading period, if the student chooses not to turn in any more that ONE (1) Quiz/Test, ONE (1) Essay/Writing Assignment or The Quarter/Semester Written & Oral Book Report Assignment, the student's quarter/semester grade will not be higher than a "C" regardless of the grade percentage. This is a College Prep English course, and these assignments are necessary to show college level readiness.

**Classwork/Homework:** General Classwork or Homework assignments are worth 10 points if collected. General daily classwork and homework will be graded on a flat scale 10, 8 or 6 depending on the amount and the quality of the work turned in by the student. Not all assignments are collected daily. As I tell students, "Not everything in life is worth points."

**Class Novels:** English 9 & 12 will have class novels assigned that will tie into units of ERWC or as stand-alone assignments. These novels tie into the time frame of the literature curriculum assigned during class. The novels will be available in digital form for Students as links or downloads for fair and equal access.

**Individual Novels:** Each student will read one or more individually selected novels per quarter. The student must show understanding of the selected novel by preparing and participating in both a written and oral book report assignment.

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**Writing Assignments:** English 9 & 12 are writing based classes. As such, writing assignments, such as essays, are part of the curriculum. Most writing assignments will involve the literature we are reading. Writing assignments will vary from "quickwrites" and short writing assignments to multi-draft edited essay assignments. Most short writing assignments are scored as 20 point assignments, while essay prompts are 100 test scores.

**Quiz/Test:** Quizzes and tests are given to support class learning objectives. They are a statistical measure of student understanding. Quizzes and tests vary in point value. They are usually worth 50-100 points. Any score below 50% will be moved to 60% for the student attempting to take the quiz.

**Student Conduct Policy**: Each student is responsible for his or her actions. If a student disrupts the learning environment, they will receive appropriate discipline action, as outlined in the Kennedy student handbook. We also expect and demand that student will use the technology piece as part of the class curriculum specifically. You will not use technology for any other purpose but a school related purpose (No TikTok, Video Games, Sports Videos, YouTube Etc.). The discipline action ranges from a warning to stop inappropriate behavior, detention, referral to an Assistant Principal, or ultimately a 2-day suspension from the learning environment. The severity of the behavior will dictate the discipline action received.

**Academic Expectations:** As a school, we expect students to engage, try their best to succeed and strive to gain proficiency in their English skills.

Late Work Policy: Late assignments are those assignments turned in after the collection time during class or if absent the date collected without a re-admit proving a cleared absence. Students have two (2) days upon their return to school to clear an absence before the work will be considered late. In this virtual world, I accept late work within the one (1) quarter of when the assignment was collected originally. Please note that late is late whether it be 5 days or 5 minutes. Late assignments are graded as a flat 60% of what the assignment was originally worth. For example, if an assignment was with 10 points, it will be graded as 6 points if turned in late. Assignments need to be completed to keep up with the class curriculum. It is not the points, it is the information that needs to be caught up.

**Extra Credit Policy:** I do not issue individual extra credit assignments in my classes. There are more than enough regular assignments issued each quarter to allow any student to earn the grade her or she wishes to earn. I do occasionally issue extra credit assignments to entire classes to allow all students the equal opportunity to receive extra credit if the student wished to complete the assignment.

**Parents/Guardians:** Please feel free to e-mail me or leave me a message to contact you. We are both interested in the success of your child. I hope you will let me know if there is anything you or your child needs from me. I will contact you if I see any changes in attendance, academics or conduct. The student, by turning this assignment in, acknowledges that a parent or guardian has read and understands this syllabus as written.

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