



2019-2020 COURSE SYLLABUS

ENGLISH 9

Teacher Name: Emmanuel Valadez

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Check grades on Infinite Campus via www.scusd.edu

Course Description:

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 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.

Textbook(s):

- Novels: *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, *The House on Mango Street*
- Readings: short stories, selected poems, political speeches, informational texts and professional essays.
- Expository Reading and Writing Course Curriculum Text Sets

Required Materials:

- 2 Notebooks (only one will be used at a time, the notebook will be kept in class)
- Binder is acceptable if students prefer
- Pencils and blue or black pens
- Highlighters

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:

- Final (20%)
- Classwork (40%)
 - graphic organizers, warm-ups, reflections, responses to pre-reading/post-reading questions, grammar exercises, in-class readings, independent reading
- Writing (40%)
 - formal in-class essays and creative writing assignments, extended writing, critical thinking questions

Course Outline:

First Semester

Absolutely True Diary (ERWC)
Conscious Hip-Hop(ERWC)
Independent Unit

Second Semester

Good Food Bad Food (ERWC)
Remembering Injustice (ERWC)
House on Mango Street
Independent Unit

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.

**CLASSWORK/HOMEWORK POLICIES (Read carefully here students)**

We will cover all that we can in class, but there may be work outside of class as well. This will typically be in the form of reading, researching for an in class project, preparing for an in-class discussion, or reviewing for a test.

We will be moving very quickly, so get all your work in on time. Late work will receive zero credit. I understand things come up though, so in the event that you are not able to turn something in on time, please make sure you attach the Late/Incomplete Work form to your assignment before submitting it. You can find these here: <http://bit.ly/2KKrW9V> Each student is able to use three per semester.

If you are absent, you have as many days as you were absent to make up the material. You are responsible for getting any assignments you missed. If you are turning in work late because you were absent, be sure to tell me so I can check it off rather than marking it late. I will not accept work on a unit of study after we have tested. You will also need to contact me if you are late on the day of a group presentation by phone or email and get clearance from attendance for illness, without these expect a 0. First and foremost though, please remember to communicate with me regarding your absences and/or inability to get work in on time. We need to work together this year, and the only way we can do that is if we are open and honest with each other.

Plagiarism/Cheating:

Plagiarism/cheating will be dealt with according to the school rules and guidelines. 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:

While some days can be harder than others, we are all going to be together for an entire school year. In order to make this year a fun year, I have a few classroom expectations that we will all follow (myself included).

- Be respectful to me, your classmates and yourself
- Use names (do not just say "hey you")
- No hats, hoods, or headbands in the classroom. No sunglasses are to be worn in the classroom.
- Cell Phones are not allowed.
- Headphones must be put away before class begins.
- No profanities.
- Students are allowed to go to the restroom one at a time. Students are encouraged to use the restroom before class begins.

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. 506210) or by emailing me at emmanuel-valadez@scusd.edu.