

TEACHER INFORMATION

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Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 4:30-9:00 p.m. and Sunday 6:30-9:00 p.m.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

CS 109 One full-year credit

English 9 advances the study of written and spoken communication skills. Literature study emphasizes genre and the understanding of literary terms and vocabulary. This course meets the English 9 course requirement for the high school diploma.

COURSE OUTCOMES

This class will help students to become more proficient in the areas of literary analysis, writing, research, Blackboard / online learning, and discussion boards. Reading strategies and writing traits will be a strong focus throughout the lessons.

The following [Virginia Standards of Learning for English 9](#) will be met throughout the course:

Oral Language

- 9.1 The student will make planned oral presentations independently and in small groups.
- 9.2 The student will produce, analyze, and evaluate auditory, visual, and written media messages.

Vocabulary and Figurative Language

- 9.3 The student will apply knowledge of word origins, derivations, and figurative language to extend vocabulary development in authentic texts.

Reading Analysis

- 9.4 The student will read, comprehend, and analyze a variety of literary texts including narratives, narrative nonfiction, poetry, and drama.
- 9.5 The student will read and analyze a variety of nonfiction texts.

Writing

- 9.6 The student will develop narrative, expository, and persuasive writings for a variety of audiences and purposes.
- 9.7 The student will self- and peer-edit writing for correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, and paraphrasing.

Research

- 9.8 The student will use print, electronic databases, online resources, and other media to access information to create a research project.

HOW TO MEET COURSE GOALS

- Effective **Time-Management** Strategies:
 - Each lesson includes four sections. Plan on spending at least 4 - 6 hours per week on the class – this equals the time you would spend in a face-to-face class, including the time you would spend on homework.

- Plan your weeks and develop a regular class work schedule—make every effort to keep current and not fall behind. Make the class part of your routine.
- **Information-seeking Methods:** Bookmark the really helpful websites and don't hesitate to ask questions. Please feel free to call me with any of your questions. There are NO “dumb” questions!
- **Self-motivational Techniques:** It's up to *you*—*you* must do the work and keep up.
- **Communication Skills:** Respond to teacher contact attempts and initiate contact whenever necessary.

GRADING:

This class uses the “point” method. Each assignment will have a point value determined by the amount of work required and the relative importance of the activity.

- Each student starts out with zero points and must work to complete assignments to build the point value.
- **Missing assignments will count as zeros, bringing down students' overall averages.**
- At the end of each term, the Total Points Earned will be divided by the Total Points Possible to determine an average score.
- Blackboard does not determine the final grade – the instructor does!
 - A student's performance and participation will be factored into every term's final grade. This performance grade is based on the instructor's notes on each student's performance in the class (promptness, quality of participation, etc.)

MATERIALS NEEDED

There is no textbook necessary for this class. Most lessons include material accessible online, except for the following list. *Please obtain the ISBN edition shown below so page numbers will correspond to the instructor's lessons:*

- **Books and Novels:**
 - *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
 - ISBN 0060935464 or ISBN-13 9780060935467
 - *All Quiet on the Western Front* by Erich Maria Remarque (extra novel; permission required)
 - ISBN 0-449-91149-7

COURSE SCHEDULE

FIRST SEMESTER

1st Term (7 weeks) – ends Oct. 29

- Introduction to English 9
- Unit 1, Lessons 1-4: The Short Story
- Unit 2, Lessons 5-7: Legends and Myths: The Odyssey (to be continued in Lesson 8)

2ND Term (9 weeks) – ends Jan. 21, 2011

- Unit 2, Lesson 8: (continued) Legends and Myths: The Odyssey
- Unit 3, Lessons 9-12: Shakespeare's *Romeo & Juliet*

- Unit 4, Lessons 13-14: Poetry
- 1st Semester Exam, proctored in person – week of Jan. 17-21 (locations to be announced)

SECOND SEMESTER

3rd Term – (7 weeks) ends March 17

- Unit 5, Lessons 15-16: Nonfiction Genres
- Unit 6, Lessons 17-20: Novel – *To Kill a Mockingbird* (to be continued in Lesson 21)

4th Term – (8 weeks) ends May 20

- Unit 6, Lessons 21-22: (continued) Novel – *To Kill a Mockingbird*
- Unit 7, Lessons 23-26: Research and Information Literacy
- Final Exam, proctored in person – week of May 23-27 (locations to be announced)

COURSE POLICIES:

- **Assignment Submission Deadlines:** Lesson due dates are noted in the **My Grades** area and will be announced ahead of time.
- Most submission due dates are on Wednesdays and Sundays of each week. Assignments should be submitted by the **end of the day (11:59 p.m.)** on the date they are due.

CCPS POLICIES:

- **Chesterfield County Public Schools (CCPS):** Students are expected to abide by the academic integrity policies of CCPS, especially those pertaining to plagiarism, cheating, password sharing, and attendance. (For specific guidelines, refer to the *CCPS Online Student and Parent Handbook* included in the student orientation.)
- **Please use the websites provided in the **Websites** area to harvest copyright-free images** for all projects you submit in this class. Another acceptable alternative is to create your own images with material of your own. Do not use Google search/images as a way to find artwork.

LEARNING RESOURCES:

Tips for Success

- Save all your class documents and files in one folder on your PC – even after submitting your work! You will sometimes need to return to a previous assignment or will need to resubmit one.
- Be patient and read all directions on every page. Do not skip over any text.
- Think *before* you type—or, at the very least, *before* you post/submit.
- Proofread *all* written communication and assignments *before* sending.
- Be respectful of others and be open-minded.
- Ask questions when necessary. Take the initiative to clear up any confusion.
- Provide feedback. Tell me if something is incorrect, not working, or unclear. Let me know which activities you like and which ones could be improved.
- Work hard, be positive, and you should have an excellent, unique learning experience!