

**Course Expectations 2015-2016: English 9 CP and English 9 Advanced**

Teacher: Ms. Wright

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Room A204

Welcome to Ms. Wright’s class! The information outlined in this syllabus will help you to be successful in English class this year.

**Course Overview**

The focus of this course includes close reading, textual analysis, application of rhetorical skills, advancement of research/documentation skills, and acquisition of higher level grammar/composition skills are. Argumentative, narrative, expository, and creative essays plus a variety of oral presentation opportunities (formal and informal) prepare you to be active participants in your immediate community and leaders in the global society in which we live. A variety of texts will be used throughout the year that include but are not limited to the following:

Core Texts:

Holt Literature and Language Arts.

“Up Front Magazine” from The New York Times.

Supplemental Fictional Texts:

“The Odyssey” by Homer.

“Romeo and Juliet” by William Shakespeare.

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury.

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee.

**Curriculum Focus:**  The curriculum adheres to the International Baccalaureate program and Common Core skill-based instruction. The following thematic topics and questions will serve as general areas of inquiry:

The Hero and Society: How do our collective ideas about heroism advance or debilitate the construction of group and/or individual identity?

Language and Culture: How does narrative define us as groups and/or as individuals?

The Politics of Poetry: Beyond aesthetic considerations, why is poetry an effective medium for moving people to action? How is it -- in fact -- a critical rhetorical medium for persuasion?

Language and Power: How does propaganda function of a tool of societal control?

Stereotype and Assumption: How can we create a safe, accepting and peaceful society?

Rhetoric and the Media: How does media instruct and/or construct us?

**Materials**

You are required to use an Interactive Notebook (INB) for this class. The INB will be used every day for all class and homework assignments. The purpose is to ensure proper organization and study skills. You will create an INB for each semester and are responsible for maintaining your notebooks.

Bring the following materials to class daily:

* College-ruled spiral notebook (100 pages)
* Highlighters
* Glue stick or tape
* Pencils/pens
* English textbook

**Citizenship**

Your citizenship mark is based on bringing materials to class, avoiding tardies, and participating appropriately.

* O Student exceeds in preparation and behavioral expectations, and

participates in a highly productive manner on a daily basis. Student has 0 tardies.

* S Student adequately meets preparation and behavioral expectations,

and participates in a positive manner. Student may have no more than 3 tardies.

* N Student meets most of the preparation and behavioral expectations,

but participates only when required to do so. Student has more than 3 tardies.

* U Student fails to meet preparation and behavioral expectations, and

does not participate in a positive or constructive manner.

Cheating/plagiarism automatically results in a U.

**Grading**

Semester grades are calculated using the following weighted system:

* Tests 30%, Essays 25%, Class work 20%, Quizzes 15%, and Homework 10%
* Late work will be accepted with the possibility of earning partial credit
* Absent work may be turned in within three days of returning to school without losing any points. Work becomes late after three days and points will be deducted.

Cheating/plagiarism of any kind is unacceptable. Any case of cheating/plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment. Cheating/plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the following:

* Copying class work or homework
* Looking at a classmate’s quiz or test
* Verbal or nonverbal communication with a classmate during a quiz or test
* Copying an essay from the Internet or another student

**Class and School Rules**

* Respect everyone and everything on campus
* No gum, food, or drinks in class (water ok)
* No disruptive electronics (cell phones, iPods, etc.)
* No inappropriate language in speaking or writing
* School dress code is enforced
* No bathroom passes given during the first or last 10 minutes of class or during direct instruction
* Be on time! If you are tardy, sign the tardy binder. An office pass is needed after 15 minutes.
* Stay in your seat until you are dismissed.
* Be prepared, be productive, be respectful!

**Progressive Discipline**

Failure to follow any class or school rules will result in appropriate disciplinary action. Steps may be added or deleted based on the severity of the incident.

* Verbal warning
* Parent contact
* Teacher detention
* Written referral

**Directions:** Keep the course expectations in your interactive notebook for reference throughout the school year. Turn in this signature page to be kept on file in the classroom.

**English 9 CP and English 9 Advanced** Period #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher: Ms. Wright**

Student Name: (please print legibly) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: (indicates that the student has read and understands the syllabus content and expectations)

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I. Parent/Guardian Name: (please print)

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Relationship to student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

II. Parent/Guardian Name: (please print)

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Parent/Guardian Signature(s): (indicates that the parent has read and understands the syllabus content and expectations)

I. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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