



Southern Lehigh School District

High School Syllabus

Honors English 9

2014-2015

Course Description:

Within this rigorous course, students will focus on the fundamentals of reading, writing, vocabulary and grammar. Students will be expected to read and analyze a variety of short stories, plays, novels, poetry, historical texts, and other readings. The curriculum will specifically include the Five-paragraph essay which will emphasize MLA format and the six Write Traits.

This course is designed for students planning on attending college upon graduation.

Course Content:

Writing: This unit will introduce

- 1. the Five-Paragraph Essay**
- 2. MLA Format**
- 3. Narrative, Informative, and Persuasive Writing**

Vocabulary: All words will be derived from the context of the literature being studied

Grammar: This unit will consist of

- 1. Subject/Verb Agreement**
- 2. Fused sentences and Comma Splices**
- 3. Phrases and Clauses (Commas, Semi-colons, Colons)**

Literature: Analysis of literary elements and terms in the following forms: Short Story, Novel, Nonfiction, Drama, and Poetry

SSR : Students will read and respond to a book fo choice for a period of assigned time on Day 5/Day 6 of each cycle.

Required Textbooks and/or Other Reading/Research Materials

1. Adventures in Reading: This will be your main textbook for the year. It contains short stories, novels, plays, and poetry, many of which we will be reading this year. The following are in your AIR book:

- Short Story Unit
 - Poetry Unit
 - Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare
- Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
 - To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee
 - The Odyssey by Homer (time permitting)
 - Historical Excerpts:
 - Readings about the Scottsboro Trials

- B. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Letter from Birmingham Jail" (Time Permitting)
 - C. Civil Rights Materials
 - D. Great Depression Articles
6. English by Houghton Mifflin: This will be the resource used during the grammar unit.

Course Requirements:

Each student is required to complete all classwork, homework, and assessments. All assignments must be made up within one week, or they will not be accepted.

Grade Components/Assessments:

All assignments will be graded as expressed in the Southern Lehigh High School Handbook. Grades will be designated for homework, classwork, and summative assessments. Formal essays will be graded according to the 6 Write Traits and MLA format.

GRADING PROCEDURE

Assignments (Classwork and Homework)	30%
Summative Assessments (Tests, Quizzes, Projects, and Essays):	70%

Each marking period is worth 20% of a student's overall grade. The final exam is worth 20% of a student's overall average:

Quarter 1	20%
Quarter 2	20%
Quarter 3	20%
Quarter 4	20%
Final	20%

Required Summer Reading/Assignments:

Honors English 9 students must read a TOTAL of THREE of the following books:

CLASSICS (Choose ONE):

- Rebecca* by Daphne du Maurier
- Uncle Tom's Cabin* by Harriet Beecher Stowe

You will complete a formal essay encompassing one of these texts during the first week of school.

FICTION AND NONFICTION (Choose any TWO works):

Literary Nonfiction:

- The Color of Water* by James McBride
- The Freedom Writers Diary* by Erin Gruwell

Science Fiction

- The Maze Runner* by James Dashner
- Childhood's End* by Arthur C. Clarke

Gothic Fiction

- Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte
- Dracula* by Bram Stoker
- The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson

Modern and Contemporary Fiction

- A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith
- The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd
- The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky

You will be expected to complete a double-entry journal for each book.