**Honors English 9 Course Syllabus**

Mrs. Fabrizio

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Honors English 9 will concentrate on genre-based literature. The course will also reinforce reading, writing, vocabulary, research, and presentation skills.

**OBJECTIVES:**

* To distinguish between and demonstrate various genres of literature
* To recognize stylistic and thematic differences among various authors
* To empathize with the human experience through literature
* To develop and improve writing skills through the use of the writing process and with consideration to the domains of the writing rubric
* To develop personal vocabulary to improve writing and speaking skills
* To improve the use of grammar
* To apply speaking skills to class discussions and formal presentations

**RESOURCES**

*Whirligig* by Paul Flieschman

*Witness* by Karen Hesse

*Night* by Elie Wiesel

Textbook: Glencoe Literature: *The Reader’s Choice* Course 4

*The Count of Monte Cristo* by Alexander Dumas

*The Iliad* by Homer

*Hamilton’s Mythology* by Edith Hamilton

*Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare

Various short stories and poetry from *Adventures in Reading*

**CONTENT**

**Vocabulary**

Vocabulary tests/quizzes will include definition, word usage, and application. Vocabulary lists and assignments should be kept in your student notebook, as these will be included on end of term examinations.

**Literature**

Various literary devices will be covered in great depth. They will be introduced in the beginning of the year and dealt with continuously. Students are expected to apply these devices to various genres, including the short story, essays and other non-fiction, poetry, the novel, mythology, and drama.

**Writing**

We will cover the parts of the essay, types of essays, thesis statements and performance tasks. You will be expected to follow the writing process to create a complete, organized essay.

**Research Paper**

The research paper will be completed toward the end of the school year. We will focus on the steps taken to complete research, outlines, and the bibliography.

**Independent Projects**

Each marking period, students will be required to complete an independent project based on the genre we are covering at that time. These projects will require students to read, write, and research independently, and to present their findings to the class.

**ASSIGNMENTS/PROCEDURES/EVALUATIONS**

* All assignments are to be done according to the format presented to you.
* Write neatly. If it cannot be read, it will be marked wrong or returned with no grade. Written assignments should completed in blue or black ink.
* All typed assignments must be in MLA format. Please learn the proper format to receive full credit for assignments.
* There will be assorted quizzes, announced and unannounced, as well as performance tasks on the assigned readings.
* There will be announced major projects/tests on the assigned readings.
* There will be announced vocabulary quizzes.
* **Homework** – especially reading and vocabulary – is an essential part of this course. Homework may be checked, given point values, or used as a quiz grade. **Late submissions will not be accepted.**
* **Projects and writing assignments are due at the beginning of your class period, on the due date.** **If you are absent for any reason, papers must be emailed by the beginning of your class period.** Failure to turn in a project or essay will result in the loss of 10% from the marked grade for each day that it is late. After 5 days, the assignment will automatically be given a zero.
* There will be a midterm and a final exam.

**STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

* Be on time. Excessive lateness will result in detention.
* Be prepared. You must have a pencil, blue or black pen, notebook, and appropriate texts with you every day.
* Missing class. Missing class for ANYTHING is a privilege. It is **your** responsibility to notify me in advance of your need to be excused, not anyone else’s. You are responsible for all work missed and all homework assignments. It is in your best interest to complete work ahead of time if possible. **If missing a test due to a sport, activity, early dismissal, etc., you must make it up beforehand.** If your absence is unexcused, you will **not** be given the opportunity to make up the work – this includes tests and quizzes. Please see the student handbook for additional information regarding excused/unexcused absences.
* Makeup work. It is your responsibility to make up work that you miss. If you are absent, please check the weekly schedule posted at the back of the classroom to find out “what we did yesterday.” You will find copies of assignments that you missed in your class folder or online when possible. I expect Honors level students to see me during homeroom/after school or send an email to inquire about missing work. I will not hold up the start of my class to give out any missing tasks.
* Behavior. I will treat you with respect, and I expect it in return. This also applies to your classmates. I do try to keep a familiar and open atmosphere in my classroom with a good sense of humor and friendliness. Do not take advantage of this by mistreating people for the sake of trying to be funny – it will not be tolerated.
* Grading. I calculate grades using a system of **total earned points divided by total possible points**. If you wish to discuss your grades, it is your responsibility to schedule an appointment that is convenient to both of us **at least 24 hours in advance**. It is also your responsibility to question the teacher respectfully and diplomatically.
* Signing out. It is your right to expect bathroom and health suite privileges – it is your responsibility not to abuse this right. If you wish to leave the room for any reason, you must sign your name, destination, and time out in the sign-out book located in the back of room and write the time in that you return. If you do not sign out properly or take too much time, you will lose your sign-out privileges. During class, only **one** person is allowed out at a time.
* School property. You will be issued a textbook and various other texts throughout the school year. Any damage beyond normal usage will result in a fine – please treat your books carefully. It is also important that we all do our part to keep our classroom clean – put things back where you got them and clean up after yourself.
* Food and Drink. You may chew gum, eat, and drink in my class. If you abuse this privilege by not picking up after yourself, it will be taken away.
* Cell phones. As per the student handbook, cell phones are **not permitted**. I should not see them from the time you enter the classroom until the time you leave. If your cell phone is out, it will be taken away and you can come get it at the end of the day. If it happens a second time, you will be sent to the office and a phone call home will be made. **Cell phones will be collected at the beginning of class for all major assessments – no exceptions.** This includes tests, quizzes, and in-class writing assignments.

**METHACTON HIGH SCHOOL HONOR CODE**

Cheating/plagiarism is defined as the giving and/or receiving of outside help on anything

(including homework) that has been determined by the teacher to be an individual effort. Examples are: stealing, borrowing, buying, or copying someone else’s work (e.g., homework, lab reports, take-home tests, tests and research papers). Cheating and plagiarism fall under the heading of the **Academic Honor Code** that can be found in its totality on the High School web page. It should be understood by the consequences that plagiarism and cheating are behaviors that are strongly discouraged. **Any cell phone or unauthorized electronic device confiscated during a test will be considered level 1 cheating.** Failure to comply with rules and expectations will result in disciplinary action.

Please sign and return this portion no later than Tuesday, September 8th.

I have read and understand the rules and responsibilities of Honors English 9.

I have accessed, read, and understand Methacton’s Academic Honor Code.

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_