



## ENGLISH 9

Ms. Aubree White

awhite@madisoncity.k12.al.us

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**Course Description:**

English 9 satisfies one English Language Art credit toward graduation according to the Madison City 2020-2021 Curriculum Catalog. In this course, students will acquire and develop skills for comprehending informational texts, understanding and appreciation of literature, writing, speaking, listening, and commanding the English language with respect to grammar and vocabulary.

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**Course Objectives:**

English 9 students will build and grow general reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. By the end of English 9, students will be able to read, understand, and analyze grade level texts, write an effective argumentative or analytical paragraph and basic essay correctly using many mechanics of English grammar, and effectively participate in a formal discussion.

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**Classroom Expectations:**

You are expected to conduct yourself in a respectful and productive manner. In addition to all the rules and expectations listed in the student handbook, I expect you to have a positive attitude, treat others with respect, practice self-discipline, and demonstrate responsibility. If these conditions are not met, you can expect one-on-one meetings with me, parent/instructor conferencing, and administrative action, if necessary.

**Concerning the use of cell phones and other electronic devices:**

Devices should be on silent and kept in your purse, backpack, or pocket during class unless otherwise instructed. You may not place it on your desk. Parents, guardians, and other family members should call the front office in case of emergency.

If you violate this rule, you can expect the following consequences:

- *First offense* – The phone or device will be placed in a phone chart at the front of the room. You may pick it up at the end of class.
  - *Second offense* – The phone or device will again be placed in a phone chart at the front of the room until the end of class and a parent/guardian will be notified.
  - *Third offense* – This is defiance and I will notify an administrator.
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**Grading Policy:**

Major assessments will count 70 percent of your grade. Homework and classwork will account for 30 percent of your grade. Grades will be updated weekly in PowerSchools. Each grading period will consist of nine weeks.

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**Make-up Work Policy:**

Make-up tests will **only** be given to a student who has an **excused absence**. **The student must make arrangements with the teacher to take a make-up test. Tests may be taken during Patriot Path with prior arrangement from each teacher.** A student only has two chances (the next two Patriot Paths after the absence) to make up a test. All make-up tests will be administered in the designated classroom on the Patriot Path session roster.



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Homework/Classwork: Students who are absent for **excused reasons** will be permitted to make up missed work. **It is the student's responsibility to get their work assignments the day upon return to school and complete the assignments according to a time frame determined by the teacher within two weeks of the date of the last absence.** Grades of zero will be assigned for assignments missed because of unexcused absences.

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***Text and Other  
Required Reading:***

- *Animal Farm* by George Orwell (Summer Reading)
  - Short Story unit (diverse stories provided in class/online)
  - *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
    - additional nonfiction texts provided
  - *The Odyssey* by Homer
    - additional excerpts from *Circe* by Madeline Miller
  - *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
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***Materials and  
Supplies Needed:***

- Binder (any size)
  - **College-Ruled** paper
  - Pencils, Pens, Highlighters (blue, green, yellow recommended)
  - Tissue, Hand-Sanitizer, any donations are very welcome!
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***Laptops***

Concerning laptop utilization: 1. Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities. 2. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers. 3. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops. 4. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher.

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***Turnitin Notice***

The majority of writing assignments in this course will be submitted to Turnitin via the Schoology learning platform. Turnitin generates a report on the originality of student writing by comparing it with a database of periodicals, books, online content, student papers, and other published work. This program will help students discern when they are using sources fairly, citing properly, and paraphrasing effectively - skills essential to all academic work.

Students will have the opportunity to review their Turnitin originality report and will have the opportunity to make revisions before submitting their work for grading. Once their work is submitted, teachers have the opportunity to view the student/s originality report and grade accordingly.

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***Accommodations***

Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from students and parents.

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**Academic Honesty/Plagiarism:** BJHS has a zero tolerance policy for dishonest work and especially plagiarism. There are many different types of cheating: sharing test answers or information/homework with classmates, using visuals or text found on the internet, or paraphrasing ideas without giving the original author credit. Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating, and is most prevalent when doing research papers, but all of these forms of cheating will be dealt with seriously and will include a meeting with the teacher, the student, and school administration.

18 – WEEK PLAN*	
Weeks 1-3	Unit 1 <i>Animal Farm</i> → Rhetoric
Weeks 4-6	Unit 2 Short Story Unit → Literary Analysis
Weeks 7-9	Unit 3 <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> → Thematic Analysis
Weeks 10-11	Unit 4 Research
Weeks 12-14	Unit 5 Homer's <i>The Odyssey</i> → Hero's Journey
Week 15-17	Unit 6 William Shakespeare's <i>The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet</i> → Drama; Theme Analysis
Week 18	Final Exam Review

**\*This is a tentative plan and may change at the discretion of the teacher.**

Please sign below to acknowledge that you have received, read, and understood the syllabus.

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Parent/guardian name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian, please provide two ways for me to contact you (email address, phone numbers):

Parent/guardian Email:

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Phone number:

\_\_\_\_\_