



## Utica High School

English 9

Mrs. Smith, Room 105

2022-2023

## Course Description

English 9 is a full-year course and is required of freshmen. This course places emphasis upon the fundamentals of grammar, spelling, reading fluency and reading comprehension. The writing focus for the class is paragraph development, and the literature portion of class will include the short story, novel and poetry. This course emphasizes building essential skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing and critical thinking, all of which are essential to helping students become effective learners.

## Course Objectives

- To improve reading fluency and reading comprehension
- To demonstrate understanding of novels, poetry, short stories and informational texts
- To sharpen grammar, punctuation and spelling skills and successfully use them in writing
- To create polished written work through prewriting, drafting, revising and editing
- To develop confidence as a reader and writer
- To communicate and respond to ideas during discussion

## Course Materials

- Daily, you will need a **charged iPad**, a folder, a writing utensil and notebook paper. Use of red pens isn't allowed.

## Grading Policy

The grading is on a point system. Students are expected to keep up with their own grades regularly and often via Progress Book to give an idea of current standing in the class. Participation points are given for taking part in class activities, reading and having all required supplies daily.

### Grading Scale:

90 – 100 = A  
80 – 89 = B  
70 – 79 = C  
60 – 69 = D

0 – 59 = F

### Grade Breakdown/Weights:

Assignments 40%  
Tests/Quizzes 30%  
Bell Ringers 20%

## Coursework Examples:

- Weekly bell ringer activities
- Text message analysis
- Free-Read Fridays (last Friday of the month)
- Word Game Wednesdays (last Wednesday of the month)
- Vocabulary
- Reading novels, short stories, poetry, etc.
- Writing

## Classroom Expectations and Policies

### Respect:

You will respect me, your classmates and you always, and you have the right to expect the same in return. Any form of disrespect will not be tolerated and will be punished appropriately.

### Tardiness:

You are expected to arrive on time for class and be in your assigned seat with required materials, ready to begin class when the bell rings. The following is the school policy for tardiness:

**4th tardy in a grading period:** a lunch detention

**5<sup>th</sup> tardy:** a lunch detention

**6<sup>th</sup> tardy:** an afterschool detention

### Absences:

If you are absent (excused or within the allowable amount per the student handbook), you will have the same number of days as you are absent to make up the work. **It is YOUR responsibility to arrange for and complete the necessary work the day you return.** If you missed a test, you must make it up as soon as possible when you come back. All of the assignments that were due while you were absent will be due when you return.

## **Denial of Credit Policy for a Semester Course:**

Any student who accrues non-professional absences in excess of four (4) days in a nine week period, eight (8) days in a semester-long class and/or sixteen (16) days in a year-long class will be subject to receive zeroes on assignments for every additional day of non-professional absence for the remainder of the 9 weeks for each class in which this takes place. Each nine weeks, every student will begin with a clean slate with regard to period attendance.

## **Cheating:**

Cheating includes: plagiarism, copying someone else's work, or allowing someone to copy your work. You should complete work individually unless otherwise indicated by me. On the first offense, both parties receive a zero on the assignment, quiz or test **AND** will be reported to the offices, and disciplinary action will take place.

## **Technology Use:**

There will be times when we will be using technology for academic purposes. If I see a cell phone, iPad or other electronic device in use when they aren't allowed, I will confiscate and hold them until the end of the class. (Note: this includes earbuds/headphones.)

## **Dismissal/End of Class:**

Class ends when the bell rings, not before. You are not to pack up early; this is distracting to myself and your peers and could cause you to miss important information. We will be working bell to bell each day, unless otherwise indicated by me.

## **Late Work:**

Assignments must be turned in on time in order to receive full credit.

- 1 day late-lose 20%
- 2 days late-lose 30%
- 3 days late-lose 50%
- Work will not be accepted more than 3 days late.

# English 9 Course Outline

*\*Subject to change\**

August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brigrance Assessments</li><li>• 3 Artifacts Presentation</li><li>• Famous Failures Project</li></ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grammar Workbook</li><li>• <i>10 True Tales of September 11th</i> (novel)</li><li>• Paragraph Writing</li></ul>
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grammar Workbook</li><li>• Annotating</li><li>• Short Stories Unit: <i>The Most Dangerous Game, The Necklace, Thank You, Ma'am</i></li></ul>
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grammar Workbook</li><li>• Character Traits</li><li>• Short Stories Unit Cont'd</li></ul>
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grammar Workbook</li><li>• Review of 1<sup>st</sup> semester material</li><li>• Mid-Term Exam</li></ul>
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grammar Workbook</li><li>• <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> (play)</li></ul>
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grammar Workbook</li><li>• <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> cont'd (play)</li></ul>
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grammar Workbook</li><li>• MLA Format/Persuasive Writing</li></ul>
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Poetry Unit</li></ul>
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brigrance Re-Assessing</li><li>• Review of 2<sup>nd</sup> semester material</li><li>• Final Exam</li></ul>

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

My name is Jodie Smith, and I am your child's English 9 teacher this year. I'm very excited for the new school year!

As indicated in the attached syllabus, students are asked to always arrive to class with a fully charged iPad, a writing utensil and notebook paper. They should also have some kind of folder to help them stay organized and hold onto assignments.

I am looking forward to getting to know you and your child, and I feel that communication between parent(s)/guardian(s) and the teacher is vital to student success. The easiest way for me to keep in touch with you is through email. If you'd like to contact me, you can reach me at **jodiesmith@northfork.k12.oh.us**. I want you to feel comfortable contacting me, so please don't hesitate. If email is not an option, you can also call the main office at **(740) 892-2855** and leave a message, and I will return your call as soon as possible. I would also like to ask below for some contact information in the event that I need to get in touch with you.

I look forward to working together to give your child the support he or she needs, while still helping him or her develop the independence crucial to success in our changing world. I look forward to hearing from you. Feel free to keep the top half of this letter for your records.

Sincerely,

Jodie Smith

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Parent Information: **Due** \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please detach this bottom half and return to Mrs. Smith.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the policies and expectations listed in the class syllabus. I understand what is expected of me/my child and how to reach Mrs. Smith, if need be.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_