

COURSE OUTLINE

Welcome to English 9 with Ms. Citton

The year will be spent solidifying and practicing many of the skills learned in Grade 8. The language skills of reading, writing, speaking, viewing, and researching will be developed through a variety of written, oral, and visual assignments. Writing and creative expression will be on the front burner and a major component of English 9.

Please read through the following course outline with your parents/guardians. There are permission forms that need to be signed and returned ASAP.

The New BC Curriculum

This year, English 9 with Ms. Citton will follow the new BC Curriculum. As such, assessments, expectations, skills, and learning outcomes have changed to reflect a more personalized, holistic, and engaging learning experience.

Learners will be evaluated on their ability to master the new curricular competencies which allow them to access, recognize, appreciate, construct, and evaluate different forms, structures, and features of English language.

Classcraft

In order to increase class participation, encourage teamwork and collaboration, we will gamify the classroom and use a program called Classcraft.

Classcraft is a role-playing game designed to be played in classrooms. Each student takes on the role of a character and works to gain special powers. One of the game's main objectives is to boost your motivation to study and participate in class by making your education more entertaining. To get the most out of Classcraft, players must develop a strategy for themselves and for the team they belong to. Classcraft is most beneficial when players master all the different characteristics of the game.

– Classcraft Website.

Please refer to the Parent and Student Information sheet for more details.





Our Theme for the Year:

“Go into the arts. I’m not kidding.
The arts are not a way to make a living.
They are a very human way of making life more bearable.
Practicing an art, no matter how well or badly, is a way to
make your soul grow, for heaven’s sake!
Sing in the shower. Dance to the radio. Tell stories.
Write a poem to a friend, even a lousy poem.
Do it as well as you possibly can.
You will get an enormous reward.
You will have created something.”

- Kurt Vonnegut

English is more than reading and writing; it is the ability to create, communicate, and reflect effectively. It is an Art – one that I encourage students to try with an open mind. Throughout this year, students will be provided with ample opportunity to express themselves in a variety of creative ways. We will experiment with different forms of expression and mediums while weaving the all-important threads of communication, higher order thinking and reflection throughout.

Assessment and Evaluation

Your final grade will not be determined until your last assignment or exam has been marked. Your grade can change day-to-day, based on your mastery of the curricular competencies.

The breakdown of marks:

Writing and Representing **30%**
Original Compositions, Written Expression, Visual Journal
December & June Exam - Original Composition (7.5%)

Reading and Viewing **30%**
Literary paragraphs, Character Sketches, Reading and Responding
December & June Exam - Literary Paragraph(s) and Multiple Choice (7.5%)

Speaking and Listening **17%**
Speech, In-class presentations, Group Work and Reporting

Accelerated Reader **8%**
This year Grade 9's require 40 points.

Self-Assessment/Portfolio **10%**
All year. Written & Literary Portfolio (5% each)

Participation **5%**
All year. In class, and online.

Supplies



- 1 x 1½ in. binder with plastic covering
- 5 Dividers
 - Intro
 - Reading
 - Writing
 - Notes & Handouts
 - Paper
- Pens – black, blue and red
- White out
- Pencil (for scantron only)
- Eraser
- 1x Notebook
- Lined Paper
- Folder
- Pencil Crayons and Markers (Optional, but encouraged)

Policies and Expectations

All school and academic policies are written in the student handbook. Please read these policies in full.

Absences

If a student misses a test or assignment because of an unexcused absence, he/she will receive a mark of **zero**. Missed test are to be written within 48 hours of the test date. Students who miss a test are responsible for arranging a time with the teacher.

Students are responsible for all missed work. All assignments, daily happenings and homework will be on the class website: ms-citton.weebly.com . Students are responsible for checking the website and completing missed work. Students should make every effort to return to class prepared. In order to do this, it is important that you contact me directly (in person or via email) or consult the course webpage **before** returning to class.

In the event of an extended absence, students are requested to bring a written explanation from their parents at least two weeks in advance.

Late to Class

Students will require a late slip to enter class after the second bell. Three lates will result in a detention.

Late Policy in regards to Assignments

There will be no mark penalty for late work until such time that the class work is marked and handed back. At this time, late assignments may or may not be accepted for full marks.

Cell Phones and other Electronics

Cell phones and other electronic devices may be used only with the **permission of the teacher**. **Technology will play an important role in the classroom; we will use Chromebooks, Google Drive, and @myndrs.com accounts. All students have an @myndrs.com account; if you have forgotten your account information - please see Mr. Vogel asap.**

Students may bring a personal laptop to class in order to complete in-class assignments; should students choose to bring their own computer, they are responsible for it.

Ms. Citton's Pet-Peeves and Tips for YOUR success:

- Socks and Sandals – don't do it!
- Arrive on time.
- Be in uniform.
- Do your homework.
- Ask questions.
- Get involved and participate.
- Be open minded and go with it.
- Trust the process.
- Try.
- Be positive and encouraging to both yourself and your classmates.



Other: