

ENGLISH 9

Syllabus



James Clemens High School
11306 County Line Road
Madison, AL 35756

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I. Course

Description: Ninth grade students are expected to develop and strengthen all areas of English language arts over the semester in order to build a solid foundation. They will become more aware and strategic in their approach to reading increasingly complex selections on a more independent level. While the focus in reading is on world literature, students will also learn to expand their control of the writing process. By managing the research process, students will learn to investigate and present information in a multitude of fashions that includes written, visual, and oral. Students will take part in discussions in order to investigate gray areas of literature and practice communication skills with peers. Overall, students will develop skills in researching, questioning, presenting, reading, writing, and discussing.

II. Course

Objectives: The objective of the ninth-grade curriculum examines a variety of authors' styles, vocabulary, literary components, and persuasive strategies in both non-fiction and fiction texts. The writing and language strand culminate in the application of skills mastered at a significantly complex and sophisticated level. Standards in the research and inquiry strand become more demanding. Although not all research results in a formal paper, ninth grade students support a thesis on a nonliterary topic. The oral and visual communication strand prepares learners to function effectively in both employment and postsecondary educational settings. In practice, these strands are integrated, thereby enabling students to see the relevance of what they are learning.

III. Classroom

Expectations:

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

Grading: Students must have a personal account (through the school) on the following websites:

Schoology: <https://madisoncity.schoology.com/home>

Webex: <https://www.webex.com/>

Responsibilities: Students are required to attend online classes, turn in daily and weekly assignments, complete online activities, write essays, and read material outside of class. Students will submit daily assignments and assessments through schoology.com.

Attendance: Attendance: Students must login to Schoology every day during the time of their class's intended block. This is how Madison City takes official attendance during online learning. Bell schedule:

Block 1 8:15-9:40

Block 2 9:45-11:15

Block 3 11:20-1:55

Block 4 2:00-3:30

IV. Appropriate Use of Technology:

1. Be on time. (Even log in a few minutes early in order to ensure you are ready for a lecture.)
2. Be in a quiet place. (Check your surroundings.)
3. Be prepared. (Make sure your computer is on, is charged, and you have headphones if need be.)

4. Wear appropriate clothing and present yourself well.
5. Mute yourself when your teacher or other students are speaking.
6. Participation: Be focused, be attentive, and be an active participator.
7. Chat responsibly: Raise your hand to speak and try to type all questions in the question box.
8. Communicate clearly: Look up when speaking and stay on task.

V. Grading Policy: Major grades will account for 70% of the semester grade, with the remaining 30% being determined by classwork/homework grades, or minor grades. The grading scale is as follows: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (65-69), and F (below 65). Make sure all absences are excused: major/minor grades can be made up only for excused absences. The final exam counts for 1/5 of final grade, which at this point will probably be an essay or research paper. Weekly assignments will be due on Fridays at 11:59 unless otherwise noted by your teacher.

VI. Make-up Policy:

If a student misses a major or minor grade, it is up to the student to contact the teacher and make arrangements for a make-up date/time and the absence must be excused. Failure to do so will result in a 0 for the major or minor grade

VII: Materials and Supplies Needed:

It is recommended that students have a 3-ring binder with pockets to keep writing handouts and notes.

18 Week Plan *Subject to change as needed*	
Unit 1	Summer reading <i>Animal Farm</i> by George Orwell: Reading Comprehension, Analysis of a Text, Writing/Reading workshop, Grammar review, and Vocabulary; Additional writing practices <u>Approximate Length of Unit:</u> 2 weeks
Unit 2	<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee Reading comprehension, Analysis of a Text, Writing/reading workshop, Grammar review, and Vocabulary; Additional writing practices <u>Approximate Length of Unit:</u> 6 weeks
Unit 3 (Combo Unit)	<i>Short Story Unit</i> Analysis of short stories, essay writing, grammar, and vocabulary, YA Literature <i>Poetry Unit</i> Poetry, grammar, and vocabulary <i>Narrative Writing</i> Poetry, grammar, and vocabulary <u>Approximate Length of Unit All Together:</u> 4 weeks
Unit 4	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i> by William Shakespeare Literary elements, Sonnet analysis, and vocabulary <u>Approximate Length of Unit:</u> 3 weeks
Unit 5	Research Paper Using knowledge and skills learned when reading <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> to construct a research paper that correctly cites sources, persuades an audience, and uses correct CDC format <u>Approximate Length of Unit:</u> 2 weeks
Week 18	Review and Final Exam

**This is a tentative schedule and is subject to change at the teacher's discretion. **A variety of short stories, non-fiction texts, speeches, and poetry will also be included in each unit.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I look forward to having a great year! I feel fortunate to have your son/daughter in my class this semester and hope that you will contact me should you have any concerns about the progress of your son/daughter or any aspect of the instruction. With your son/daughter, please read the attached policies.

Normally, I would ask that you sign and return this form, but due to our online semester, just make sure that both you and your son/daughter have read the syllabus.

Please note that any acts of academic dishonesty or plagiarism may result in any or all of the following consequences from Madison City Schools' policy on Cheating:

“A student who cheats will not receive credit for the work in question. If any other student has cooperated in the cheating, that student is also considered to have cheated and will not receive credit. Cheating students will also be subject to the consequences in the disciplinary consequences in Section XXII of this CSC.

Cheating is defined to include, but is not limited to: Page 15 of 51 (a) copying someone else's work in or out of class and identifying and submitting it as your own (b) failing to quote and/or list appropriate citations for material derived from published sources (including the Internet) and identifying and submitting it as your own (c) the use of unauthorized notes, other materials, or assistance during the accomplishment of graded work in or out of class (d) any other situation in which the student attempts to or accepts credit for work not his or her own.”

Madison City Schools Student Code of Conduct for 2020-2021 found here:

<https://www.madisoncity.k12.al.us/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=3761&dataid=2020&FileName=Policy%20CSC-2020-2021%20APPROVED.pdf>

Thank you.

Hannah Stockman