




HON EN 9

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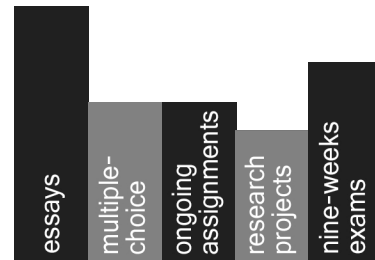
What is Honors English 9?

When someone makes the move from middle school to high school, there are a lot of changes that occur. The biggest, by far, is the increased academic expectation of students in preparing them for their next life step. Honors English 9 aids this process by helping students become critical thinkers, to move past the obvious and into the intended, to move from influenced bystanders to influencers. In short, this class is meant to help students to “grow up” and find their place in a wider world.

In order for this to work, students must be self-motivated, realizing that they will only get as much from the course as they put into it. There will be a substantial amount of reading and writing required of an honors students, and students who try to “skimp by” on minimal effort will only experience a minimal product at the end of the year.

A NOTE TO PARENTS

This is a **difficult, college prep course** that is meant to challenge students and help them grow academically. In other words, your student's grade may be lower than that to which you are accustomed. Don't panic right away, grades typically level off by the second semester.



GRADE BREAKDOWN

CLASS SUPPLIES

REQUIRED

Blue or Black pens

Pencil

Four notebook dividers

One-inch binder with paper*

Highlighters (three colors)

Jump-drive^

SUGGESTED

Earbuds (stereo jack)

Index cards

Cheap dictionary

White-out

^can share with other classes *should be dedicated to hon 9

As you have heard many times, this school year will push us all past our comfort zones and challenge all of our notions of what school should look like. Please make sure to be understanding and fluid when it comes to classwork, and **MAKE SURE TO STAY ON TOP OF YOUR ASSIGNMENTS! DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!**

important texts

We *may* read the following major texts this year:

- *Antigone*
- *Oedipus Rex*
- *Romeo and Juliet*
- *The Odyssey*
- *Lord of the Flies*
- *A Streetcar Named Desire*
- *Animal Farm*
- *A Separate Peace*

** You may be responsible for purchasing these texts, but please do not buy them until directed to do so.

ANOTHER NOTE TO PARENTS

Because this is a college preparatory course, we will be reading college-level texts that present different viewpoints in different mediums, many of which students will find alien. Many of these works will also contain mature elements (themes, scenes, language, etc.) which are not taught in the traditional high-school classroom. I encourage parents or guardians to scrutinize the texts that we read and discuss them with their students. Any parents or guardians who wish for their child to read an alternate text may request for them to do so but must make that request no later than one week before the first reading assignment for that piece is due.

THE NOT-SO-FUN STUFF



Class Expectations

1. Be respectful of everyone.

By choosing to take this course, you are making a commitment to me, to your classmates, and to yourself. You are committing yourself as a vital part of the success of the course. This means that you have to be **PRESENT** during class (focused, not on your phone or working on another class's work, participating in the discussion, etc.). This also means **ENGAGING** with other students' opinions, whether or not they are different from your own. This will be one of the first chances you've gotten to debate and present your personal opinion on deep topics, so make sure to **LEARN HOW TO DO THAT WELL**.

2. Be prepared to engage.

What point is there in taking a college prep class if you're not going to do the reading and writing or if you're just going to put minimal effort into the reading and writing by doing it last-minute. I promise that **EVERY** assignment you are given serves a purpose, whether it is to further you as a reader and writer or to prepare you to succeed in college.

3. Be a decent person.

Although this has already been mentioned in other areas, it bears repeating. Be decent to your classmates. No matter how well you know or don't know them, they will push your boundaries and beliefs, which is a **GOOD** thing. Disagreement is the greenhouse of academia. We can never grow without resistance, so expect and welcome it. Disrespect toward someone else (or yourself for that matter) will never be tolerated in my class.

4. Be honest.

One of the biggest concerns of academia is plagiarism, which is presenting someone else's work or thought as your own. This does mean copying and cheating, but this also includes Sparknoting texts instead of reading them or allowing someone else to just "tell you what happened." Any form of plagiarism will be punished with zero credit for the assignment and parental / office involvement. I understand that things can get overwhelming. **PLEASE**, if they do, come speak to me about getting an extension on an assignment rather than just cheating yourself, your classmates, and me by plagiarizing.

late and absentee work

Assignment deadlines are firm without a prior arrangement. All minor assignments (readings, current events, etc.) will receive no credit for being late. Major assignments will receive half-credit if they are turned in one day late. Anything turned in after that will not receive credit.

Work done in-class and missed because of an excused absence can be turned in within two days of the student's return to class.

a typical day...

This will be the typical schedule we follow each day:

- 15 minutes: Character Journal Free Write
- 10 minutes: Read Silently / Study Vocabulary
- 3-5 minutes: Brain Break
- 20 minutes: Grammar Lesson / Review
- 50 minutes: Major Work / Writing Practice

What should I do by tomorrow?

- ☐ Have your one-inch binder with paper and dividers
- ☐ Bring back the "highlights" page with signatures
- ☐ Look over and begin planning your "Get to know you" project
- ☐ Have a book to read (bring to class every day)

