

Ware County High School
9th Grade
English Language Arts
2020-2021 Course Syllabus / Spring Semester

Teachers: Mrs. Musgrove & Mrs. Garrison

Phone: (912) 287-2351

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***** Email is the preferred method of contact if you or your parents need to reach us.**

Course Description:

Literature, composition, and grammar are integrated in this course to provide a unified connection between these elements of the Language Arts, variety for the students, and flexibility for the teacher. The literature may be arranged by genre or theme, with the writing (both creative and analytical) closely linked to the genre being studied. Grammar study will stem not only from the reading and writing but also from organized practice. Detailed information concerning the Performance Learning Standards for 9th grade may be found on the Ware County Board of Education website. English I is a required course for all freshmen.

Materials Needed:

- 1" notebook (3 ring binder)
- 5 tab dividers
- loose leaf paper
- pencils/RED pens

Course Grading:

Grading procedures for this course will follow the school's requirements:

- **40% Daily Grades**

20% (Journals, quizzes, homework assignments, etc.)

10% Flocabulary

10% IXL

- **60% Major Grades**

Vocabulary tests, Unit projects, Research projects, Unit tests

We will have a final exam in this class, however; you can be exempt from it if the following applies to you by the end of the semester:

- semester average of 85 or above
- 5 or fewer absences
- NO referrals

Late Work Policy: All work should be turned in on time, **late work will receive a 10-point penalty for each day it is late!** Therefore, after 10 school days a late assignment is a ZERO.

Projects and Essays: When projects and essays are assigned, students will receive a rubric in order to know expectations for the assignment. It is required that each student turn in the rubric with the assigned project or essay. If the rubric is not turned in, 10 points will be deducted from the final grade. No exceptions.

Absence/Make-up Work Policy: Please consult WCHS Parent-Student Handbook.

Generally, we are available for tutoring and/or make-up work after school. Please see us in advance to make an appointment. We have after school obligations; we will need notice to accommodate your requests.

Attendance Policy and Class Rules:

The class will be governed by the rules and regulations of the Ware County Schools and Ware County High School. Basic rules are posted below and will be posted in the classroom. Please review the district's Code of Conduct and the WCHS student handbook for further details.

Make-up Policy:

It is the responsibility of students missing school due to an excused absence to request make-up work upon return to class. Students will have an equal number of days to their absence to complete missing assignments and tests. (For example, if a student is absent for two days, then the student will have two days to make up missing assignments.) It is NOT the teacher's responsibility to remind students of make-up work. If you are out or know you will be out, please see Mrs. Musgrove or Mrs. Garrison ASAP.

REMIND:

I use Remind to communicate with students/parents about assignments, upcoming tests, etc. You can download the free app on your smartphone/device. Your student's sign in information will be posted in Google Classroom.

Expectations:

In this classroom, fair is not everyone getting the SAME, but rather, everyone getting what he or she needs to be successful in this class.

Students will be held to the following expectations in this classroom:

- Integrity
 - Do the work
 - Never cheat
 - Take pride in each task (don't turn in sloppy/half-done work)
- Respect
 - Respect classmates (making fun of another student will not be tolerated)
 - Respect teachers
 - Respect yourself (do not try to get a laugh from peers)
- Discipline
 - Try your hardest - and then try harder
 - Set goals
 - Manage time wisely

CLASSROOM RULES

1. Watch Your Mouth-

Students will exhibit courtesy and respect toward teachers and students at all times. Hateful comments concerning race, gender, sexuality, political views, appearance, or of any other type will not be tolerated; this applies to serious as well as "joking" comments.

2. Keep Your Hands to Yourself-

Physical contact of any kind is not permitted.

3. Leave the Food at Home-

Students may not eat or drink in the classroom. Closable containers of water are permitted.

4. We Need to See Your Eyes-

Students' eyes must be open and visible to the teacher at all times.

5. Obey all reasonable teacher requests

6. **NO CELLPHONE USE** unless otherwise permitted by teacher.

"Every worthwhile accomplishment has a price tag attached to it. The question is always whether you are willing to pay the price to attain it - in hard work, sacrifice, patience, faith, and endurance."

- John C. Maxwell

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

A. Entering the classroom:

1. Enter the room quietly.
2. Get your ChromeBook out.
3. Place your book bag under your table.
4. Place your cell phone in the assigned location.
5. Sit quietly and wait for further instruction.

B. When you are tardy:

1. Come in quietly. (If you fail to come in quietly your name will be written on the board as a warning)
2. Join the group without talking and begin doing what those around you are doing.

C. End of period dismissal:

1. Mrs. Musgrove or Mrs. Garrison will alert you when it is time to pack up. (**DO NOT** pack up until you're told, doing so will earn you a day in lunch detention)
2. Pick up any litter in or around your desk.
3. Push chair underneath desk.

D. When you need paper or a pencil—also true for stapler/hole puncher:

1. Raise your hand.
2. Once you have been acknowledged go to the designated area **QUIETLY**.
3. You will need to give us an item of importance if borrowing a pencil. We will return the item to you once the pencil is returned.

E. When the phone rings or when an announcement comes over the intercom:

1. **STOP** talking immediately.

F. When someone knocks or if we have a visitor:

1. The assigned person in the desk by the door will answer it.
2. Obviously, you will be on your best behavior.
3. Obviously, if you are doing anything you should not, you'll stop immediately.
4. Continue working on your assignment as if the visitors were not there unless instructed to do otherwise.

G. The fire alarm rings:

1. Everyone needs to remain seated and wait for further instruction.
2. If we are directed to go outside, everyone should file quickly and quietly out of the room.
3. Everyone should stay together and be very quiet as we walk to the parking lot.
4. Stay in a straight line.

H. When you have a question:

1. Raise your hand and we will acknowledge you. **DO NOT** blurt out.

I. When we ask a whole group question:

1. Please raise your hand if you would like to answer the question. We will randomly call on the students with their hands up. **DO NOT** blurt out an answer until you have been called upon.

J. Signed papers:

1. Signed papers need to be turned in to Mrs. Garrison

K. Going to the nurse.

1. Raise your hand to let us know, we will give you a nurse pass.
2. Go back to your desk and fill it out.
3. One of us will sign it.
4. Go to the nurse.
5. In cases involving vomit, go directly to #4. Have the nurse call me.

L. If you need to use the restroom:

1. Raise your hand.
2. You will be allotted 6 passes per 9 weeks unless you have a doctor's note.

IF YOU CHOOSE TO BREAK A RULE OR NOT FOLLOW A PROCEDURE:

Punishments will always fit the crime. Of course there are behaviors that will warrant a referral to Mrs. Thebaud immediately. Examples of this include gross insubordination or violent behavior. Behaviors that are less severe, but in violation of the basic rules of the class will be dealt with in the manner described below. This format is in no way all inclusive and is subject to change:

Warnings carry over for the entire week. Names and checks will be erased on Fridays and we will begin anew on the following Monday. However, continued violations will be noted and dealt with appropriately.

CONSEQUENCES

1st Incident - Warning

2nd Incident - Lunch detention and phone call home.

3rd Incident - Write at least half a page explaining your disruptive behavior, must be returned with parent/guardian signature within 48 hours, phone call home.

4th Incident- Removal from classroom, completion of reflection sheet, referral to Mrs. Thebaud and phone call home.

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Thank you for taking the time to fill out one more form! Please return the signed slip with your child, stating that you and your child have read the English 9 Syllabus, and understand the expectations, classroom rules along with procedures. I, _____, (student's name) agree to abide by them. I understand that I will be given a reasonable amount of time to learn the rules and procedures. If I do not follow the rules and procedures as stated in this list, I understand that I will face the consequences. Your child will KEEP the syllabus in his/her notebook.

Student's Printed Name

Student's Signature

Block

Parent's Printed Name

Parent's Signature

Date

Additional information:

Please check the way(s) you prefer for us to contact you about your child's grades and progress in our class. Include your email information to receive class newsletters.

- Email:

- Text:

- Phone Call:

- Note home (sent via student)