

Class syllabus

ENGLISH CLASS

9th Grade Edition, 2018-2019

Welcome!

... to ninth grade! Get ready for a challenging but awesome year. I am so excited to get to know you and to help you grow as a reader, writer, editor, and speaker, as well as to prepare you for high school and your life beyond education.

Bring to Class

- Composition Notebook
- Binder
- Independent reading book (at all times!)
- Pen or pencil
- Highlighter
- Loose-leaf paper

Restroom Breaks:

You will need to use the restroom before coming into class.

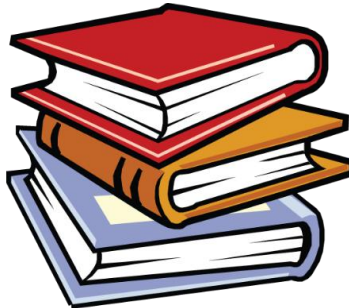
If it is an emergency, please come speak to me during small group time. **NOT WHEN I AM TEACHING A LESSON**, so that I may call an escort for you.

School Dress Code Policy:

You will need to adhere to the school's dress code policy. If your outfit does not adhere to the policy, you will need to call home for a change of clothes and wait in ISS until your extra clothes are brought to you.

Class Rules:

1. **Listen** to the teacher, and ignore others who try to distract you!
2. **Follow directions.** ☺
3. **Keep a positive attitude.** Don't judge a person, book, or assignment too soon.
4. **Be proactive.** Plan ahead. Do not assume you will get an extension if you ask for one.
5. **Be prepared.** You must have a signed parent note to print, and if you need to print, do it before my class starts!
6. **Ask for help.** I can't help you if you are silent when confused!
7. **Be respectful.** Please do not have side conversations.



Using Tech:

We will use the following websites/software regularly on school devices:

- Quizlet
- Google Apps (Classroom, Docs, Slides, and Drive)

Remember to follow school policies for technology use and to keep track of your own usernames and passwords! If you forget your login, I might not be able to help!

Getting Help

There's more than one way!

1. **Before school:** Ask for an appointment to meet in room G128 at 6:15
2. **At school:** During ELA class
3. **After School:** Ask for an appointment to meet in room G128 at 2:20 pm.
4. **Email:** Email me before 5pm.

FAQ's

Q: Can I throw this paper out?

A: NO! You never know if you'll need that paper for a midterm, final exam, high school, or report card. Ask me before you throw ANYTHING away.

Q: Do we have homework tonight?

A: YES! Even if you are fully caught up on all assignments, you should be working ahead or doing some independent reading!

Q: What if I disagree with, or have a question about, one of my grades?

A: The BEST option is to chat with me in person, when we can BOTH look at an assignment and discuss it. If necessary, you are welcome to send me a detailed email about the concern.



Contact Mrs. Kuhn

Rachelm.Kuhn@cms.k12.nc.us

Please understand that I cannot guarantee email responses after 5pm. Thank you.

Absence Policy

If you miss a class for any reason, here's what to do:

- On the day you return, you need to check the make up work bin for the days you were out. If you missed a test or a quiz, see me to schedule a time to make it up.
- Turn in any projects or assignments that were due on the day(s) you were absent.
- Do not rely on friends. They might forget important details.
- Be prepared to take a missed test or quiz ASAP. You are not guaranteed extra days to study.

Snow Day Policy

If there's a chance we will have a snow day, please bring home all of the school supplies you will possibly need to do work from home. Not having a paper or book will not be grounds for an extension on a due date.

If we have a snow day, then we will resume our planned due dates as quickly as possible. For example, if we were supposed to take a test or quiz on the cancelled day, then **it will happen on the next possible school day**. If an assignment was due on the snow day, then it will be due the next possible school day.

For example, if we miss school on Tuesday, anything scheduled for Tuesday is now on Wednesday. (If we miss Friday, it's due Monday.)

If we have a snow day on the day before a test or due date, then **the normal test or due date will still happen on the originally scheduled date**. Assessments will not be pushed back for extra study or homework time!

Finding & Using Books for Independent Reading

In this class, you will need to find and carry an independent reading book with you to every English class. (More details about our independent reading requirements are on another paper.)

The books you choose must be:

- School appropriate
- Ones that your parents would approve of
- An appropriate length
- An appropriate reading level (not too easy or difficult)

If you ever need help finding a book, I can recommend some. However, it's a good life skill to not just rely on a teacher. Please also ask a friend or librarian!

If I have a concern about a book you're reading, I'm allowed to "veto" it or contact your parent(s).

Document Formatting

Anytime you are submitting a typed document (either printing it or turning in electronically), make sure it includes the following MLA guidelines:

- Running header, upper left corner, with last name and page #
- Heading on first page (left), containing your name, class period, and due date
- Centered title
- 1" margins
- Double spacing
- Times New Roman 12
- No extra spaces between paragraphs (or between headings and titles)
- No excessive spacing, bolding, italics, or photos

Revision Policy

Even professional writers usually don't do well on the first draft, so our class has a standard revision policy for writing (such as essays, narratives, and extended writing projects).

If you wish to raise a grade on a piece of writing, you may get ONE chance to raise it. Please turn in a revised copy within FIVE SCHOOL DAYS of receiving that grade. (For example, if you receive an assignment grade on Tuesday, then you have until the end of the period on the next Monday to turn in your revisions.)

If you do not meet the five-day deadline or do not succeed in turning in a draft that is actually better, then you are not given additional chances.

If you're ever unsure about what to revise or how, please see me and do not wait until the last minute.

FAQ's Continued

Q: Can I study with a friend?

A: You may study with a friend, but you may not write together if it's an individual assignment; I will be checking to make sure two papers aren't too similar.

Also, I strongly encourage you to write and study your OWN notes instead of the notes shared with you from someone else, because you don't know if they are complete and accurate.

