

CP English 9 Course Syllabus 2015-2016

Tourtellotte Memorial High School

Teacher Name: Mrs. LaFlamme

Room # 226

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“Speech is power: speech is to persuade, to convert, to compel.”-Ralph Waldo Emerson

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The freshman College Preparatory Program is designed to help students develop self-directed critical reading and reflective writing skills. Due to the broad nature of English & Language arts, this course will cover the following three subtopics throughout the year:

1. **Literature.** This course provides students with a variety of literary genres: the short story, poetry, non-fiction, novels and drama. We will cover several major works of literature in addition to other selected texts. Outside reading may also be required.
2. **Word Study.** While we will study vocabulary relevant to the literature we read, this is a completely separate unit that is practiced throughout the year. Word study provides skill development in Greek and Latin roots.
3. **Writing & Grammar.** Students will develop composition skills, including lessons in grammar and punctuation. Students will apply these skills to a variety of writing assignments, both expository and creative.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Composition Notebook
 - *Each student is required to have a composition notebook that will remain at school for any in-class writing assignments and activities.*
- Three-Ring Binder
 - *It is highly suggested that all students have a three-ring binder meant specifically for English class where they can collect ALL materials they receive throughout the year. Doing so will allow him/her access to materials to study for any cumulative exams. The binder should contain plenty of loose-leaf paper and a section where they can keep papers that are not hole-punched.*
- Writing Instruments
- Required Texts
- Independent Reading Material

CLASS POLICIES

Homework: Homework is an important and necessary part of each student’s educational advancement and the success of the class as a whole. Students are responsible for reading portions of the texts at home throughout the week in addition to various assignments that may include research, writing or reflection.

Late Work: Students are responsible for turning in all work on the assigned due date. However, late assignments will be accepted up to two class days past the due date. For each day that the assignment is late, there will be a 10% deduction from the assignment grade.

Make-Up Work: **Students are responsible** for all work missed due to absences. Any homework due the day of a planned absence must be submitted to Mrs. LaFlamme by the beginning of the class when the student returns to school. Potentially missed tests must be rescheduled prior to the actual test date. For unplanned absences, please obtain your missed work (in-class and homework) from the class website, or by contacting a classmate. For students who miss more than three days of school, parents may request to pick up assignments after 2:00 pm in the main office (please contact the teacher to ensure that all materials are prepared for pick-up by this time). **A grade of zero will be assigned if missed work is not turned in within the make-up policy guidelines provided in the Student Handbook.**

Extra Help: Mrs. LaFlamme is always willing to provide extra help to students when needed. Please see her to set up an appointment. Available times may vary, but Mrs. LaFlamme will be in her classroom each day until at least 3:00 PM.

Extra Credit

In an effort to keep work expectations high and consistent, as well as ensuring equity in the classroom, there will not be individual opportunities for extra credit work during the school year. Any opportunities for extra credit will be offered to the entire class.

Academic Integrity: It is expected that students will maintain academic honesty in all aspects of their class work (homework, essays, presentations, quizzes, etc.). Any student who is caught plagiarizing or cheating will receive a grade of zero for the academic work involved. The administration will notify the parents of the student or students involved. When work is copied from another student, both students will be penalized with a grade of zero. Grades that are the result of academic dishonesty in any form are irrevocable. Further disciplinary action may be taken.

Cell Phone Policy: Cell phone use is prohibited in the classroom, unless authorized by the teacher. After a warning, if a student is using one of these devices, it will be confiscated and turned in to the main office staff. When this happens, the student may collect the item from the office at the end of the school day. If it becomes a frequent occurrence, a parent or guardian will be contacted.

GRADING POLICY

Please refer to the Grading Policy in the Student Handbook. Students who do not complete work may be expected to work with Mrs. LaFlamme after school. Class work always comes before after school activities. Participation in after school activities may be compromised when schoolwork is not completed.

Tourtellotte Memorial High School's grading system for all students will be numerical.

100 – 97 = Superior Quality
96 – 94 = Very High Quality
93 – 90 = High Quality
89 – 87 = Extremely Good
86 – 84 = Very Good
83 – 80 = Good
79 – 77 = Above Average

76 – 74 = Average
73 – 70 = Below Average
69 – 67 = High Pass
66 – 64 = Pass
63 – 60 = Low Pass
59 and below = Failing

GRADE COMPOSITION

Grades are computed on a weight scale basis. The weight given to each assignment varies according to length, difficulty, and relative importance of the assessment. The following guidelines reflect the general weight PER category:

Homework	10%
Class Participation*	10%
Quizzes	15%
Journaling/Classwork	15%
Essays/Projects	25%
Tests/Exams	25%

*Class participation consists of being involved in class discussions, projects, group work, etc. ***Giving a wrong answer is still considered positive class participation.***

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

The class will be challenging, but if you follow these basic expectations, you WILL succeed:

- Attempt all activities and assignments.
- Always produce work that you are proud of.
- Maintain an atmosphere that supports academic and personal growth.
- Ask questions when you do not understand the content or an assignment.
- Persevere through problems.

CLASSROOM RULES

1. Be prompt.

Arrive to class on time and be in your seat when the bell rings. Students who are late to class without a pass from another teacher or administrator will be given a detention as stated in the Student Handbook.

2. Be prepared.

Bring all needed materials to class. Be ready to actively engage in class activities.

3. Be polite.

Respect yourself, others and all property. Raise your hand before speaking.

4. Be positive.

No offensive language. Find value in the opinions and input of others.

5. Be productive.

English work only during class time. Follow directions first time they are given.

Conversations should be reflective of and directed towards the topic at hand.

CONSEQUENCES

1. Warning
2. Change in Assigned Seat
3. Call/Email home
4. Detention
5. Office referral

**Consequences depend upon the actual situation and may be altered at the teacher's discretion.*

Please bring this and the attached form home. Have a parent or guardian sign the form, showing that they are aware of the expectations set for this course. You must also sign the form showing that you also understand the expectations.

The attached form is due back to Mrs. LaFlamme by Monday, August 31.

Be prepared for a fun-filled year of learning through exploration, discovery, and challenging yourself in CP English 9!

Date: _____

I have read the **CP English 9** course syllabus, which includes: required materials, expectations, rules, consequences and grading policy for this course. My signature below indicates that I understand the requirements and policies for this class and agree to adhere by them throughout the school year. I understand the academic integrity policy and agree to its conditions as well.

Student Name: _____ Signature: _____

To Parents:

Hello! My name is Mrs. Jenna LaFlamme and I will be your child's English teacher for the their freshman year. I have set high expectations for each and every student in my class, but I cannot succeed without your support. Please read the above course information and sign below stating that you understand the class expectations, policies, rules and consequences, and you agree to become my partner in helping your child succeed academically.

I am available via email at jlafamme@thompsonpublicschools.org. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding the course syllabus, or if you'd simply like to check on your child's progress throughout the year. Thank you in advance for your support!

Parent Name: _____ Signature: _____

What is the best **phone number** to reach you? _____

If you have an **email address**: _____

My child has access to a computer at home? YES _____ NO _____

My child has access to the Internet at home? YES _____ NO _____

(Providing email allows me to add you as a contact not only for individual emails, but mass emails as well)

This form is due back by August 31st.

Thank You!!!

Jenna LaFlamme