

Ninth Grade Literature, Composition, and Conventions, Honors 2014-2015

Mrs. Amanda Feldmann

Course description:

Focusing on a study of literary genres, the student will develop initial understanding of both the structure and the meaning of a work of literature. Technical writing is the focus for ninth grade students. Students will demonstrate awareness of audience and purpose, and when appropriate, exhibit introductions, supporting evidence, and conclusions. Students will demonstrate understanding and control of the rules of the English language, with appropriate application in both written and spoken formats.

Because this is Advanced Content class, this course will often entail global perspectives and result in the use of interactive technology. Presentations requiring extended research will frequently be used as a form of differentiated assessment reflecting students' ability to collaborate and think creatively.

Course Goals:

- To write multi-paragraph compositions for a variety of purposes, using all stages of the writing process
- To analyze elements in literary genres of prose, poetry, and drama
- To use literal, inferential, and critical reading skills
- To increase spelling and vocabulary skills
- To conceive and develop ideas about a topic for the purpose of speaking to a group

(Texts and assessments in this course will align with the Common Core Standards for the State of Georgia. These standards can be found at https://www.georgiastandards.org/Common-Core/Documents/CCGPS_ELA_K-12_EducatorResourceDocument.pdf)

Materials to bring to class each day:

- #2 pencil (for testing)
- Pen
- College-ruled notebook paper
- 3-ring binder for portfolio
- 10 dividers
- Textbook

Textbooks: *Prentice Hall Literature: Gold Level*

Content Emphasis:

- Literature = non-fiction, short stories, *Animal Farm*, poetry, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Odyssey*
- Grammar = parts of speech, parts of the sentence, and clauses, punctuation, capitalization, usage, and diagramming
- Composition = five-paragraph essay, timed writing, research-based writing (MLA format), Persuasive essay, poetry portfolio
- Speaking/Listening = short speeches, Shakespeare/poetry recitation

Grading Scale:

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
F = less than 70

Weighting of quarterly average:

Daily:
Classwork/homework 15%
Writing Assignments/journals 25%
Test:
Quizzes 25%
Major tests/projects 35%

The nine weeks' exam and the semester exam will count in the major test category. Ninth grade English also has an End of Course Test that will count toward 20% of the student's final grade in the course.

Class Expectations:

- Follow all policies found in student handbook
- Attend class regularly
- Be punctual and prepared for class
- Meet all deadlines (assignments are due at the beginning of each class!)
- Keep room neat and clean (no gum, candy, food, or soda allowed)
- Attend after-school tutorial for extra help when needed for review
- Treat me and your classmates with respect

Course Requirements	Description
Attendance	In accordance with Board of Education policy
Participation	Voluntary oral participation
Tests/Evaluations	Weekly
Classwork/Homework	Daily
Group Activities	Required participation
Tutorial Assistance	As needed

Consequences:

All students are expected to be positive, contributing members in this class. Be polite and thoughtful of one another. If student behavior prevents the class from functioning well, the consequences will include:

1. A warning to correct offensive behavior
2. Class time-out period with another teacher and parent contact
3. Parental notification / teacher detention/ request for parent conference
4. Office referral

*****The teacher reserves the right to bypass consequences and send a student to the office for serious misbehavior!*****

Teacher Contact Information:

In the event a parent should need to contact me, you may do so in the following ways:
Leave a message with the front office at 912-395-6300 ext 729012
Email to Amanda.feldmann@sccpss.com