



English 9 College Preparatory  
Course Syllabus 2009-2010  
Ms. Conrad

### Course Description

The ninth grade English College Preparatory Program is a sequential program that runs for four years. At the ninth grade level students review the basics of grammar, punctuation, spelling, and sentence structure. The focus of writing is the five-paragraph essay in several formats, a modified research paper process, and DSTP preparation. Course work aligns with state and district standards. Students are introduced to the use of high school library resources through referencing assignments.

Literature includes the study of drama, short stories, poetry, and novels.

Vocabulary instruction will be taught in context using all of the above genre of literature, as well as technical/career resources. Vocabulary exercises and tests will be emphasized focusing on root words, parts of speech, phonics, etc.

Course Objectives (SWBAT) Students will be able to:

1. demonstrate increasingly mature use of sentence patterns
2. write a well-developed five paragraph essay according to several patterns
3. demonstrate effective use of library resources
4. understand the components of and to complete successfully a small scale research paper
5. analyze the short story, the novel and the drama
6. understand the components of a short story
7. present material orally in a variety of formal and informal situations
8. utilize new vocabulary
9. use the dictionary as a tool for vocabulary development
10. complete projects as assigned during each of the four marking periods
11. maintain a binder organizing work from each marking period

### Student Expectations

1. Attend all classes on time.
2. Be prepared when coming to class by bringing all required materials.
3. Be attentive, respectful, and conscientious in the classroom at all times.
4. After an excused absence, work must be made up by the next class period, or

completed by the number of days the student was out. Students may not make up work if absence is unexcused.

5. It is the responsibility of the student to request make-up work the day they return from an absence.
6. Late assignments will receive no more than ½ credit.
7. Abide by classroom rules, as well as the Student Code of Conduct and RCCSD student behavior standards.

#### Grading:

Students will be graded based on the following areas: daily classwork, homework, quizzes (announced and unannounced), tests, research paper, projects, essays, journal, binder organization, etc.

Grading is on a point system and percentages coincide with the RCCSD grading policy:

- A = 100-93
- B = 92-85
- C = 84-77
- D = 76-69
- F = 68 or below

Grades are available on the HAC (Home Access Center) for student and parent viewing.

#### Classroom Supplies:

Please bring with you for daily use:

- 1 A three-ring binder with dividers for each marking period.
- 2 A pen AND a pencil.
- 3 Index cards
- 4 White out
- 5 Journal (spiral bound notebook)

#### Texts:

*Elements of Literature: Third Course* (2007)  
*The Old Man & the Sea*  
*The Pearl*  
*The Odessey*  
*Romeo and Juliet*

Various other novels, short stories, poems, current events, musical selections, filmstrips, and power point presentations will be included.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time during the year regarding your students' progress. Ninth grade is an exciting and challenging year and we want to make sure all students are successful!

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**After reading the course syllabus, please sign and return to Ms. Conrad no later than September 9, 2009.**

We have read, discussed, and understood the above material and requirements for the English 9 College Preparatory class. We understand that educational success depends on a commitment from student, parent, and teacher. As a team we will put forth effort, give support and guidance in order to have a highly flourishing school year.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

It is also imperative to read in its entirety the Student Code of Conduct, specifically the portion as it refers to “academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, copyright infringements)...” (pg. 9 note #5). This is critical to any research references on papers or reports.

