

English 9 – College Preparatory Course  
Mrs. Dougherty  
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The ninth grade English program is the beginning of a four-year sequence. At the ninth grade level students review the basics of grammar, punctuation, spelling and sentence structure. The paragraph is used as the basic model of instruction for the elements of effective composition: structure, overall organization, clarity and significant detail.

Students are introduced to the use of the high school library resources through reference assignments. Student will produce a mini-research paper as a final results utilizing the many and varied genres available to researchers.

### **Main Course Goals:**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate increasingly mature use of sentence patterns.
2. Demonstrate writing a well-developed paragraph according to several patterns.
3. Demonstrate use of library sources, especially the OPAC and UdLib/search, and other computer on-line sources.
4. Understand the components of and to complete a mini-research paper.
5. Analyze short story, novel, poetry, and drama genres.
6. Understand the components of the short story such as exposition, narrative hook, rising action, climax, falling action and resolution.
7. Analyze character development for various forms of literature.
8. Respond effectively to literature through discussion.
9. Present material orally in a variety of formal and informal situations.
10. Utilize new vocabulary in a variety of situations.

### **A Focus on Literature and Genre:**

What makes the English I—College Preparatory course unique is the emphasis in literature, which is the study of various “genre,” especially short stories, the novel, poetry, and drama. Public speaking is introduced through the demonstration speech. A program of systematic vocabulary study, which continues through the four academic years, begins with 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **Grading:**

Evaluation is an on-going process. Students will be graded based on the following areas: daily class work, homework, quizzes (announced and unannounced) tests and projects.

Grading percentages coincide with the RCCSD grading policy: A=100-93; B=92-85; C=84-77; D=76-70. Below 70 is a failing grade.

The final grade is determined by the average of the four marking periods (20% each), mid-term (10%), and the final exam (10%).

A student must pass with a final .75 average to earn credit for the year.

If a student receives three F's in any of the five elements, he or she is not passed for the year.

Completion of 4 major project for the year: *Romeo and Juliet*, Homer, Short Story Project, Final Spring Project.

Completion of 3 major written assignments: Research Paper, Demonstration Speech, and Character Analysis and/or Persuasive Essay.

**Student Expectations:**

Attend all classes on time.

Be prepared upon entering the classroom by bringing all required material daily.

Be attentive and conscientious (always try to get the proper rest at home and not in class).

After an excused absence, work must be made up by the next class period.

The student is responsible for seeking make-up work.

If an absence is unexcused, credit will not be given for work due on that date. (Refer to Student Code of Conduct book).

Late assignments will rarely, if ever be accepted. (Refer to the parent accountability document).

Abide by classroom rules, as well as the Student Code of Conduct and RCCSD Student Behavior Standards.

**School Supplies:**

All students need to have a notebook exclusively for English class. Student will take notes, write journals, essays, etc. in the notebook. Students may need to purchase a new notebook as the old one becomes full.

All students will also need to bring a folder (color red) to class to place completed work.

Blue/black pen for formal writing; red ink pen for peer editing (pencil may be used for rough drafts and grammar work).

**Textbook:** tHolt: Elements of Literature (Third Course); DSTP Practice Materials, Vocabulary Book.

**Parents, please note that your student will need to purchase the vocabulary book at a cost of \$9.00. Please have your student bring in money as soon as possible so that books may be ordered. Thank you.**

*Parental Role:*

*Parents are asked to encourage the student to perform to the best of his/her ability.*

*Parents should provide a supportive and nurturing environment, which will help create a productive educational experience for the student.*

*Parents can assist students in the purchase of school supplies and encourage students to be organized and prepared for this course.*

*Parents are invited to become active members of the learning process. As parents continue to assist us, we can better assist students to meet educational needs and obtain goals.*

*Mrs. Dougherty's English 9 classes:*

We acknowledge the receipt of the English I – CP Syllabus form Mrs. Dougherty

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

Parent/Guardian Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Phone #\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian e-mail\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this to your teacher at your next meeting. Thank you.