

Mrs. Mensen

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How to Succeed in My Class...

- Be Respectful...** of yourself, your peers, & of me, your teacher.
- Be Responsible...** for your assignments & your actions
- Be Safe...** keep your hands to yourself & stay home if sick
- Be Prepared...** on time, ready to start, & appropriate materials out
- Be Positive...** with a good attitude & growth mindset
- Be Attentive...** by participating in class, listening & staying on task

Welcome to English 9 honors

This course is designed to help students become stronger writers, fluent speakers of critical thoughts and ideas, and competent readers. This course is aligned with Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and will be divided into six units. As your teacher, I will do all I can to help you succeed in not only meeting the standards but exceeding them. I have high expectations of my students for the purpose of preparing you for next year and developing you into life-long, self-sufficient learners.

Please review the following information to better understand my expectations for behavior and learning.

Materials:

- Accountable Independent Reading (AIR) Book
- Chromebook charged and charger
- MyPerspectives Textbook: Vol 1&2
- Colored Pens or Highlighters (Blue, Yellow, Green, Pink, Purple)

First Semester

- UNIT 1** – Rhetorical Analysis of American Voices (textbook Volume 1)
- UNIT 2** - *Lord of the Flies* (ISBN: 0399501487)
- UNIT 3** – Arguments in Action (articles on Google Classroom)

Second Semester

- UNIT 4** – The Hero's journey in *The Odyssey* (textbook Volume 2)
- UNIT 5** - *Romeo & Juliet* (textbook Volume 2)
- UNIT 6** – Current Event Research News Report Presentation

Grades will be uploaded to Aeries

- WRITING – 30%**
(Formal Essays and LOTF Paragraphs)
- READING – 20%**
(AIR Book Conferences and Vocab and Reading Quizzes)
- LISTENING & SPEAKING – 20%**
(Discussions, Socratic Seminars, Debates, and Presentations)
- CLASSWORK/HOMEWORK – 30%**
(Vocab HW, Notes, and Google Classroom Assignments)

Absences, Make Up Work, and Late Work

- If you know you will be absent, I will help you prepare for what you will miss.
- If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and make-up the work.
- You must make up all missed assignments within the amount of time equal to days missed.
- Tests/assignments missed due to unexcused absences can not be made up.
- All work must be turned in the day it is due.
- Late work (excluding large assignments) will receive half credit, if it is turned in the next day.
- Large assignments will be deducted 10% for each day it is late
- Homework that is more than one day late will not be accepted.
- If late work is due to technological issues, a student must email the teacher ASAP to prove that their work was completed on time.

Homework, Reading, and Writing

You will be required to complete weekly vocab, read an AIR (Accountable Independent Reading) book inside and outside of class, and complete reading, writing, listening, and speaking assignments for each unit.

All writing assignments should be typed in MLA Format (using template)

- Times New Roman
- 12pt font
- Double spaced
- 1 inch margins
- Correct header and heading

Extras

- NO PHONES:** No texting, snapchatting, TikToking, taking pictures during class etc. Cellphones should be in your backpack at all times. If a cellphone is out during a quiz or test, you will receive a zero on that assignment. If you need to use your cellphone for any reason, you must get teacher permission.
- NO FOOD.** Keep hydrated, but class is not a time for you to be eating. If you have a special medical need, please let me know.
- BATHROOM BREAKS:** Plan your bathroom trips during passing period. You may not take your cellphone to the bathroom with you. We will have limited time for you to use the restroom during class, because we work bell to bell. If you abuse bathroom breaks, your parent will be notified.
- If you plagiarize, copy, or cheat, I will most likely catch you; you will receive a zero on the assignment. Your parent will be notified.
- Be open to new ideas and opinions, especially when they stem from a classmate. I have no tolerance for bullying or teasing in an unkind way.
- Communicate. Come to me with questions or concerns. Let me know if there is something I can do to help you. There is power in asking.