

# Mr. Makorow (Room 134)

English 9CP Syllabus

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Chino Hills High School, 2022/2023

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My philosophy is that every student has the right to learn and teachers have the right to teach. Students will be held to high standards of pride, respect, and responsibility. I am incredibly honored and excited to be your English teacher this year and I look forward to contributing toward your continuing academic success!

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## \* **Extra Help:**

If English academic assistance is needed, Mr. Mak is available during class and after hours through the e-mail address that is listed above. I usually try to respond as soon as I can but be patient. I'll reply ASAP. In general, be proactive with your education and yourself by asking for help if you need it. It has become especially critical to communicate and self-advocate when it comes to your education. Self discipline and staying on top of your schoolwork both go a long way toward your academic success.

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\* My **expectations** are that **all** students demonstrate the following:

- **Respect** for all classmates and adults.
  - **Responsibility** for work and conduct.
  - **Readiness** by being prepared daily and being alert and attentive.
  - **Participation** in the daily activities, discussions, and lessons.
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## \* **Independent Reading (SSR):**

- English 9CP students must read **300 pages** once each semester.
- Purchasing books **is not required**; you may obtain a book from the school's or a public library for free (as long as you return it on time!). Books from your family's home collection are allowed as well.
- There will be an SSR Book Report (5% of your grade) due near the end of each semester.
- Page counts **do not** carry over from one semester to the next. For example, if you decide to read Leo Tolstoy's 1,440-page *War and Peace*, it will only count for one semester, not both.
- Not all books are automatically approved.** See the two important stipulations below for details on how to select a book that is appropriate for our class.
- Books that are read as part of our course curriculum cannot be used for SSR unless otherwise specified.
- Remember our **two stipulations** for SSR books:

1. Books that have been made into a movie, TV show, or video game are **not acceptable**. If you're not sure if your book has a movie or TV show version, do a Google search for the book's title or check on IMDB.
2. You must select books that are **novels** (i.e., contains chapters, characters, a plot, etc.) and are **at a reading level appropriate for a high school student**. For instance, I will not accept books like the Percy Jackson/Heroes of Olympus/Red Pyramid series, Lemony Snicket books, etc. (3rd graders are reading these!). I offer a lot of liberty with book selection, but you must read books with an appropriate Lexile level. If you are not sure about a book, please ask. However, if you select a book that I did not approve and submit a book report for it, I either will not accept your work and you will receive a zero or I may heavily deduct points from your grade.

-As long as the book follows these guidelines, I will allow it. However, the appropriateness of any given book is between **students and parents/guardians**. When a SSR book is brought to me, I am under the assumption that the student has been given permission to read that particular book. Therefore, I strongly urge students to communicate the book they would like to read to parents/guardians prior to bringing it.

### **\* Classroom Policies/Procedures**

**-Eating and Drinking in Classroom:** Eating is not allowed in our classroom. This is to avoid distractions and provide adequate space for learning. All drinks are prohibited in the classroom except water.

**-Restroom Breaks:** My recommendation is that students use restrooms during passing periods. School policy states that students cannot be dismissed to the restroom the first 10 minutes or the last 10 minutes of class. If a student needs to use the restroom during class time, restroom breaks should be in a timely manner. When using the hall pass, students should be gone no longer than 5 minutes. There is a water fountain across the quad from our classroom and the nearest restrooms are the ones at Center Ice. Those are the ones that should be used.

**-Cell Phone/Electronics Policy:** Due to the daily issue of students trying to sneak their cell phones out during class, we have adopted the policy of having all students place their cell phones into a wooden bin at the front of the classroom at the start of each period. This wooden bin is numbered according to their seat in the classroom numbered from 1 to 36. Students are not to be on their cell phones during class time and instead should be focused on the daily lesson and their work. Chromebooks have been provided to each student by the school and they are required to bring that Chromebook and their charger every single day. Additionally, students should be charging their Chromebooks every night to ensure that they arrive at school with a fully charged Chromebook to use in (potentially) all of their classes. Repeated violations of this policy will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

**-Tardiness:** If you fail to be in your assigned seat when the bell rings, you will be marked late.

**-End of Period:** No matter how much time remains in class, students must have their materials out and remain in their seats until told that they may put their things away. Students are to remain in their assigned seats until they are dismissed. Remember, the bell doesn't dismiss class. Your teacher is in charge of when you pack up and when you may leave. Packing up early or trying to leave undischarged could result in students staying after class.

**-Absent Work:** Upon returning from an absence, it is **your responsibility** to find out about make-up work, whether it's from a friend or your teacher. You have the number of days you were absent to make up any work (unless specified otherwise). All completed work must be turned in promptly by the correct due date in order to receive credit. Always communicate ASAP if you have problems with or questions about absent assignments.

**-Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is a serious breach of academic trust. Turning in someone else's work as if it were your own is a form of theft. When you use someone else's words and ideas without crediting the source or authorship of those words and ideas, you are plagiarizing. So here's the bottom line: original work only, give credit to words and ideas from someone other than you. Plagiarized work will receive an automatic zero for the assignment.

**-Late assignment policy:** All assignments will have specific due dates. Students get up to 3 days after the due date to turn in an assignment late to potentially receive up to half credit. After 3 days have passed, no additional late work for that assignment will be accepted. Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis related to accommodations and other unique circumstances. Avoid turning in assignments late so your grade won't suffer.

**-Grades:** Three categories - Classwork/Homework (35%), Assessments/Projects (60%), SSR Book (5%).

**☒ Verbal abuse or disrespect** towards classmates/teachers will not be tolerated at any time, for any reason. Period. Any offenses will be treated very seriously, on a case-by-case basis.

## **Let's have a great school year!**