

# Course Syllabus: 9<sup>th</sup> Grade English



“Words are containers for power, you choose what kind of power they carry.” Joyce Meyer

## Course Information

Credit Hour: English requirement  
Marking Period: 2023-2024 School Year  
Class Location: Room B109

## Teacher Information

Name: Mrs. Yim

Email: [Robin\\_Yim@chino.k12.ca.us](mailto:Robin_Yim@chino.k12.ca.us)

## Course Description

The emphasis of this course will be on critical reading, thinking, speaking and writing combined with an increased rigor in text selections. This class includes the full integration of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in English Language Arts at the high school level. Our goal will be to read closely, so that you can write effectively in each genre (narrative, informational and argumentative) as noted in the Common Core State Standards. You will have opportunities to read and respond in writing to both informational and literary texts in this class. English is a required course for graduation, so it is important for students to maintain consistent attendance, satisfactory grades, and strong study habits (a positive attitude will go a long way, too!)

## Key Shifts

Students who successfully complete this English course will be competent in the three *Key Shifts from the CCSS*:

- *Regular practice with complex texts and academic language*
- *Reading, writing and speaking grounded in evidence from text both literary and informational*
- *Building knowledge through content- rich nonfiction*

**Standards-Based Grading:** The grading system for English Language Arts is based on mastery of the Common Core State Standards.

## Breakdown of Grading System

- Writing: 30% (including essays and journals)
- Reading: 20% (Vocabulary Quizzes, Unit Tests, Book Reports)
- Speaking and Listening: 20% (Socratic Seminars, Debates, Presentations, and Class Discussions)
- Classwork/Homework: 30% (In Class Summaries, Vocabulary Homework, Classwork, Notes)

## Grading

Grades will be updated frequently in Google Classroom and on Aeries. Please check your grades often.

Homework, classwork, and quiz grades are final. Students may not retake quizzes or submit assignments or homework. Please complete your work carefully and study to be prepared for quizzes.

Some projects and writing assignments may be resubmitted for an increased score after a conference with me. Please contact me to schedule a conference to discuss how you can improve.

### *Late Work*

Due dates are given with consideration for the amount of time assignments should take. Nearly all assignments and essays will be assigned as classwork and sufficient class time will be allotted. Students must make every effort to complete and submit assignments and projects on time. Late assignments will be accepted IN PERSON after school until the end of the current unit. If extenuating circumstances are keeping a student from completing their work, they should communicate with me as soon as possible. Late work will not be accepted or graded the last week of the grading period.

### *Literature Notebook*

All of your work will be kept in a Large Spiral Notebook (300+ sheets of paper). This portfolio should be for this **English class only**. You must have your notebook present for each class. You will always be responsible for your own student work. Your notebooks will consist of lecture notes, formative and summative assessments. It will be stamped for timely completion and graded on a specified number of stamps determined by the teacher. **Please be sure to indicate the title of your work, the date.**

### *Book Reports*

Each quarter students must read a book that is a minimum of 200 pages in length and complete a project to demonstrate their comprehension. Book Reports will be due Oct. 3, Dec. 5, March 14, and May 8. Extensions will not be granted.

Students will be allotted class time to read their book report books. Students who do not bring their book report books or are not reading in class will lose points in the Classwork/Homework category.

## Classroom Expectations

<b>A Mrs. Yim's Behavior Matrix A</b>			
	<b>Be Respectful</b>	<b>Be Responsible</b>	<b>Be Safe</b>
<b>Arrival &amp; Dismissal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Enter and exit quietly. Have a positive attitude.</li> <li>● Respect other's personal space.</li> <li>● Take out earbuds and put phones away.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Arrive on time with all necessary materials.</li> <li>● Be prepared to begin when the bell rings.</li> <li>● Keep your area clean.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Be aware of your surroundings.</li> <li>● Use all materials appropriately.</li> <li>● Don't throw trash (or anything else).</li> </ul>
<b>Whole Class &amp; Group Collaboration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Listen when others are speaking.</li> <li>● Value the contributions of your classmates and keep an open mind.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Pay attention and participate.</li> <li>● Take notes.</li> <li>● Ask questions if you don't understand.</li> <li>● Phones must be turned off and stored.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Keep aisles clear.</li> <li>● Behave appropriately for a classroom environment.</li> <li>● Avoid divisive or hurtful language.</li> <li>● Take care of our classroom environment.</li> </ul>
<b>Independent Work &amp; Assessments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Work quietly without disturbing others.</li> <li>● Keep your eyes on your own work.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Stay focused and use your time productively.</li> <li>● Read directions carefully.</li> <li>● Do your best.</li> <li>● Use technology appropriately</li> </ul>	

## Classroom Procedures:

We will be using Google Classroom for all assignments, notes, schedule, and all aspects associated with our class. All work is submitted through our Google Classroom.

All teacher feedback will be done electronically through school email or messaging via assignments. It is the student's responsibility to check email and Google Classroom regularly.

## *During Direct Instruction*

There should be no talking, with the exception of checking for understanding. Please remain in your seat for the entire lecture. You should come to class equipped with more than one pencil or use a pen to take notes, so that you avoid having to sharpen your pencil during this time.

## *Entering/Exiting the Classroom*

Students should enter and exit the classroom quietly. Class begins once you arrive. Students not working in their seats at the sound of the bell will be marked tardy. Your teacher will dismiss you at the end of the period, not the bell. Students are responsible for leaving their desk area clean.

## *Absences*

Please exchange telephone numbers or emails with **two** other classmates that you can go to in the event that you are absent. Assignments and directions will also be posted in Google Classroom. Please retrieve all materials from them and update your notebook with the work. Please indicate in capital letters/highlight ABSENT in the right hand corner of the specific page in your notebook.

Upon returning from an excused absence, you will have one day per absence to submit your work.

In cases of extended absence, please communicate with me to make a plan for making up work.

## Office Hours

To provide additional support I will have office hours after school. Availability will vary; days and times will be posted weekly in Google Classroom.

## Supplies

- Access to your student email
- Several packs of small post-its (multiple colors)
- Blue or black ink & sharpened Pencils
- Highlighters (yellow, blue, orange, and purple)
- One Large college ruled spiral notebook

## Cell Phone Policy

Once the bell has rung, students' cell phones must be turned off and secured in their backpacks. Students may not use cell phones at any time during class. Students who do not comply with the cell phone policy will be subject to discipline as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.

## Plagiarism, Cheating, and Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is the practice of copying words, sentences, images, or ideas for use in written or oral assessments without giving proper credit to the source. Cheating is defined as the giving or receiving of illegal help on anything that has been determined by the teacher to be an individual effort. Both are considered serious offenses and will significantly affect your course grade. Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for additional information.

**Additional Information:**

*I am here to help you succeed to your fullest potential. I care about you as a student and a person. If you are having trouble in class, do not hesitate to let me know either in person, by e-mail, or through Google Classroom. I am available to help you. Please do not wait until the end of the marking period, as it will be too late.*