

# Honors English 9

Ashville High School  
Mrs. Holli Smith

Honors English 9 is a first-year high school English course. This class will focus intensively on deep and close reading of fiction, vocabulary development, grammar, critical thinking and analysis, and thoughtful writing. Students are expected to read and study at home in order to contribute to class discussions of reading assignments, internalize the concepts introduced and discussed in class, gain problem-solving skills, and improve writing skills. As the teacher, I will give students the tools they will need to succeed not only in this class but also beyond the high school classroom. However, it is ultimately up to the student to make the most of the time we have together.

The course will be divided into the following thematic units:

- Values of Society - Major Work: *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury
- Justice and Injustice - Major Works: *Night* by Elie Weisel and *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- Human Relationships and Consequences - Major Work: *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
- Archetypes, Human Nature, and Conflict - Major Work: *The Odyssey* by Homer

**Supplies:** 3-ring binder, Loose-leaf paper, Pens with blue or black ink only or Pencils

**Supply Wish List:** Tissues, Hand Sanitizer, Sanitizing Wipes (Please consider bringing these for classroom use!)

**Grading:** 50% = Tests/Quizzes, Essays/Papers, Group Projects  
30% = Graded Classwork/Homework, Timed Writings  
10% = Participation, Completion Grades  
10% = Nine Weeks Exam

**Makeup Work:** It is the student's responsibility to check the class website (Teams) and ask for any work missed because of an excused absence. The student has two (2) days to complete and turn in any makeup work. ***Work missed because of an unexcused absence will NOT be allowed to be made up, and the student will receive a zero (0) for the missed work.*** If a student misses a test and the absence is excused, it is the student's responsibility to schedule a time convenient for both the student and teacher to make up the test. It is important for students to be in class as much as possible since class discussions will be frequent and important for success in this class. Time out of class can be detrimental because these discussions cannot be reproduced.

**Assignment Deadlines:** Deadlines are a part of life. It is extremely important to manage your time effectively so that you can complete assignments on time. Points will be deducted if assignments are not turned in or made up on time. See the Makeup Work Policy on the back of this page.

**Contact Information:** Phone – (205) 594-7943  
Email – holli.smith@sccboe.org

## Honors English 9 Contract

For you to be successful in this class and in your future AP English classes, you need to understand and pledge to do the following:

- I understand that the work in this class will be challenging.
- I understand that my grade will reflect the level of effort I put into my work.
- I understand that deadlines are deadlines and work will not be accepted late.
- I understand that by missing class time, I may be missing important discussions that cannot be reproduced or made up. This might be detrimental to my grade.
- I pledge to keep an open mind while reading and throughout class discussions because some of the texts may be controversial. (Remember, this is preparation for next year's college-level course, and you are expected to behave maturely when reading about and discussing sensitive topics.)
- I pledge to listen to my teacher's instructions and accept her constructive criticism.
- I understand that my teacher is doing her best to prepare me for future AP classes, success on the AP Exam, and college. If she is hard on me, she is trying to get me to improve and to reach my greatest potential.
- I understand that if I am struggling, it is my responsibility to schedule time with my teacher to discuss my problems with her and to get extra help.

## Makeup Work Policy

For excused absences, arrangements must be made with me (in writing) within the Student Code of Conduct's two-day period to make up assignments and tests. Assignments/tests missed for unexcused absences will receive a grade of zero.

## Late Work/Tests will be awarded points as follows:

*Block days and weekends are included in the makeup work time frame for assignments/tests that can be submitted online.*

*Weekends are excluded for tests/assignments that must be completed in the classroom, but block days are included.*

**On-time submissions – 100% of points earned**

Up to **one** day late (1 minute to 24 hours) – **90% of points earned**

Up to **two** days late (24 hours, 1 minute to 48 hours) late – **80% of points earned.**

Up to **three** days late (48 hours, 1 minute to 72 hours) – **70% of points earned.**

Up to **four** days late (72 hours, 1 minute to 96 hours) – **60% of points earned.**

Up to **five** days late (96 hours, 1 minute to 120 hours) – **50% of points earned.**

Up to **six** days late (120 hours, 1 minute to 144 hours) – **40% of points earned.**

Up to **seven** days late (144 hours, 1 minute to 168 hours) – **30% of points earned.**

Up to **eight** days late (168 hours, 1 minute to 192 hours) – **20% of points earned.**

Up to **nine** days late (192 hours, 1 minute to 216 hours) – **10% of points earned.**

Up to **ten** days late (216 hours, 1 minutes and over) – **0% - Work will not be accepted.**

## Communication is essential!

*If conflicts arise in scheduling a make-up test or timed writing, it is the student's responsibility to communicate with me (in writing preferably) to set up a time for work to be made up.*

Mrs. Smith's email address is [holli.smith@sccboe.org](mailto:holli.smith@sccboe.org)