

ENGLISH 9/ENGLISH 9 ADVANCED CLASS SYLLABUS

Instructor:	Mr. Centanni (pronounced Sen-tan-ee)
Room:	28
Year:	2022-2023
Planning/Conference Time:	Third Period
Contact:	scentanni@chickasawschools.com

Course Description and Objectives:

This class will focus on the “College/Career Ready” standards as required by the Alabama Department of Education and Chickasaw City Schools. This class will also act as preparation for the rest of your Language Arts requirements of the secondary level of education. This will be accented by an A+ College Ready curriculum and concentration on the ACT. While we will be reading several short stories, a majority of the readings will focus on *Anthem*, *The Odyssey*, and *Romeo & Juliet*. The class will have a writing focus that will require students to complete a variety of tasks. Grammar concepts will be covered throughout the year by using the Daily Grammar Practice technique used in the A+ College Ready curriculum. Completion of these objectives will be observed through observation of your weekly portfolio and both instructor-generated assessment and school system mandated assessments. The ultimate objective for the regular class is to create individuals who are prepared for the communication and comprehension requirements of high school with a special focus on the ACT. The advanced class has the same goals with more concentration on writing for literary purposes.

RULES:

1. STAY IN YOUR SEAT AT ALL TIMES UNLESS TOLD OTHERWISE!
2. NO TALKING WHEN I AM TALKING
3. RESPECT OTHERS BOTH MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY (ESPECIALLY THE INSTRUCTOR)
4. NO FOUL LANGUAGE
5. NO SLEEPING
6. NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES (Must be kept in a book bag or purse)
7. ALWAYS COME PREPARED FOR CLASS (Pen, Pencil, Paper, etc.)
8. RESPECT THE PROPERTY OF THE SCHOOL, THE INSTRUCTOR, AND FELLOW STUDENTS
9. THE STREETS END WHEN YOU WALK THROUGH MY CLASSROOM DOOR

Resources:

Language Network. McDougal Little: Evanston, IL, 2001.

Elements of Literature: Third Course. Holt: Austin, TX, 2008.

Rand, Ayn. **Anthem.** Dutton/Signet, 1997.

Course Requirements:

All students will be required to maintain a weekly portfolio (“The Notebook”). This portfolio should be kept in either a three-ring binder or a large spiral notebook. NO UNBINDED POCKET FOLDERS WILL BE ALLOWED. This portfolio will be checked once a week, usually on Friday. The notebook will contain A+ College REady literary journals, vocab exercises, and grammar exercises. NOTES ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED BUT WILL NOT BE GRADED. In order to be successful in this class, students will be required to pass assessments with a 60% or higher and complete all assigned projects.

Grading System/Student Responsibilities:

All class assignments will be written in a weekly portfolio. Each assignment can range from 20-50 points. All tests will be worth 50-100 points. Final essays will count as a major test grade. Tests will make up 60% of your grade. Classwork will make up 40% of your grade. The instructor will check portfolios once a week (usually on Mondays or Fridays), but random checks will be performed if needed.

Tardies:

In order to be marked present or on time, a student must be in the room and seated when the instructor takes roll.

Absences and Make-Up Work:

STUDENTS MUST HAVE AN EXCUSED ABSENCE TO MAKE UP ANY WORK MISSED. ALL ABSENCES ASSIGNED AN UNEXCUSED STATUS BY THE ATTENDANCE CLERK IN THE FRONT OFFICE WILL RECEIVE A ZERO. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE WHATSOEVER. NO EXCUSE MEANS NO MAKE-UP WORK. ANY STUDENT WANTING TO DISPUTE THE STATUS OF AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE WILL NEED TO TALK TO THE ATTENDANCE CLERK ON HIS OR HER TIME. EVEN IF A STUDENT COMPLETES WORK ONLINE ON A DAY THAT IS ASSIGNED AS AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE, THEN THEY WILL RECEIVE A ZERO.

LET ME REMIND YOU THAT YOU MUST HAVE FOUR ENGLISH CREDITS TO QUALIFY FOR A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA. WITHOUT FOUR ENGLISH CREDITS, YOU WILL NOT GRADUATE.

Projects:

A+ College Ready requires students to complete projects focused on writing and presenting.

A FINAL MESSAGE TO STUDENTS FROM MR. C:

THIS CLASS IS BASED UPON TWO THINGS: **RESPONSIBILITY** AND **CONSEQUENCE**. THESE ARE CONCEPTS THAT ARE A MAJOR PART OF EXISTING ON THIS PLANET. EVEN THOUGH THIS CAN SOMETIMES BE A RELAXED CLASSROOM SITUATION, I EXPECT YOU TO RESPECT ME AND YOUR FELLOW STUDENTS BY ALLOWING THE CLASS TO FLOW NORMALLY WITHOUT INTERRUPTION. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO RESPECT ME AND/OR YOUR FELLOW STUDENTS DURING INSTRUCTIONAL TIME, THEN I EXPECT YOU TO SIT QUIETLY THROUGHOUT MY CLASS WITHOUT DISTURBING EITHER ME OR THE REST OF THE CLASS. YOU ARE HERE TO RECEIVE AN EDUCATION NOT TO BUILD YOUR STREET CREDIBILITY. IT DOES NOT TAKE LONG FOR ME TO FIGURE OUT WHO IS HERE FOR EDUCATIONAL REASONS AND WHO IS HERE EXCLUSIVELY FOR SOCIAL REASONS. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR TURNING IN YOUR WORK ON THE DUE DATE THAT I ASSIGN. **YOU ARE ON MY TIME.** THIS IS NOT A SITUATION WHERE YOU TURN IN ASSIGNMENTS WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE IT. **YOU TURN IN ASSIGNMENTS WHEN I FEEL LIKE IT.** THE CONSEQUENCE FOR NOT DOING YOUR WORK WILL BE A POOR GRADE. YOU ARE ALL BIG BOYS AND GIRLS NOW. YOU ARE PAST THE STAGE WHERE I SHOULD FEEL COMPELLED TO FIGURATIVELY HOLD THE PENCIL IN YOUR HAND AND MAKE YOU WRITE. IF YOU HAVE AN ISSUE THAT WILL CONFLICT WITH TURNING IN AN ASSIGNMENT ON TIME, THEN YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR INFORMING ME. YOU ARE ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR BEHAVIOR. IF YOU DISRESPECT ME AND/OR YOUR FELLOW STUDENTS, THEN I WILL BE QUICK TO REDIRECT YOUR BEHAVIOR. IF YOU DECIDE THAT YOU DO NOT WANT TO WORK AND CHOOSE TO MISBEHAVE INSTEAD, THEN WOE BE TO YOU. YOUR GRADE AND TREATMENT IN THIS CLASS IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT. I AM A MIRROR REFLECTION OF YOU. **FORMER STUDENTS WILL TESTIFY THAT TREATMENT IN THIS CLASS DEPENDS ON YOUR TREATMENT OF ME AND PERFORMANCE IN THE CLASS.**

SOME TRUTHS ABOUT THIS CLASS THAT FRESHMEN NEED TO REALIZE

1. You are not going to “just pass this class” without performing well on tests and completing the assignments.
2. Nothing in this room belongs to you. Unless you are told to interact with something in this room, then do not touch it
3. If you are caught writing on walls or desks or destroying any physical property in this room, then the proper disciplinary action will be taken
4. Do not think that having a temper tantrum will sway any decision that I make, especially if you are a student who is realizing that they are about to fail.
5. Any threats of violence to me will be met with a discipline referral as well as a legal action through the Chickasaw Police Department. Keep in mind that the legal aspect of this statement will be taken by me, not Chickasaw High School.
6. Do not wait until the last minute to decide that you want to pass this class.
7. The unexcused absence policy will be enforced according to Chickasaw City Schools’ policies. Remember that these policies not only affect your grade, but they can also affect your parents on a legal level.