

Honors Literature & Composition 9

Instructor: Ms. Tichacek, Room 222

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Office Hours: Period 2

Course Description

The 9th-grade Honors English course is designed to continue the development of English skills necessary for effective communication and academic development. The course will emphasize the “academic essentials”: communicating, reading, writing, thinking, and managing yourself and your resources. Students will read and respond to a wide variety of literature, including novels, plays, short stories, poetry, and nonfiction. Students will be expected to analyze texts, utilize the research process to synthesize information/construct arguments, and create material that reflects what they have learned in various units. Special emphasis will be placed on reading for information and inference and writing coherent and grammatically correct paragraphs and essays, as well as research and the use of technology.

Course Readings: Short stories: “Sniper” by Liam O’Flaherty, “The Interlopers” by Saki, “Salvador Late or Early” by Sandra Cisneros, and “The Open Window” by Saki; *The Odyssey* by Homer; *Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry; *Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway; *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding; *Romeo and Juliet* by Shakespeare; *Never Cry Wolf* by Farley Mowat, and *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel.

(The teacher may supplement the class by introducing additional literature that supports the course objectives and enriches students' understanding of key themes. These texts can provide diverse perspectives, foster deeper engagement, and enhance critical thinking beyond the required readings.)

Students Expectations

- Please show respect to each other, the teacher, the school, and yourself.
- Do not engage in any behavior that will interfere with or disrupt our learning environment.
- Integrity: All school policies for academic integrity and plagiarism apply to this course. This primarily means if you say you read or wrote it, that you really did. If evidence shows you did not write the paper or read the book, all school policies and consequences apply. Manage yourself carefully.
- Keeping up with the reading, writing, assignments, and using class time productively are keys to success. Also, speak up if you are confused about what is being asked of you.
- You must be in your seat with the proper class materials when the bell rings. Otherwise, I will mark you as tardy.
 - No passes the first or last ten minutes of class (no fly zone). Only sign into the attendance kiosk when you are ready to stay in the classroom. If you sign in, leave, and come back after the bell rings, you will be marked as tardy.

Materials: Show up daily, on time, ready with notebook, folder, pen or pencil, class readings, IR book, Chromebook, charger, etc.

Grading

- Extra credit is not available; most essays can be revised and resubmitted.
- Grades come in three basic sizes: large (papers/projects), medium, and small (daily work).
- Final grade takes into consideration performance, progress, and contribution to the class.
- **Late work will only be accepted up to the final assessment for each unit**, and the grade will be reduced accordingly.

Make-Up Work: All missed assignments can be submitted by an agreed-upon date for excused absences. For planned absences: You are responsible for the work missed. For unexcused absences: Work missed should be completed by the next class, or else it will be considered late. Ask a trusted classmate and look at the daily lessons document on Google Classroom. All handouts and assignments will be made available to you in **your class's crate** on the side counter in the classroom or on Google Classroom.

*For preapproved absences, you will receive one make-up day for every day you are gone. **Field trips and sporting events ARE NOT included in this, per the LUHS Student Handbook.**

Electronics: Per school policy, no cell phones or Bluetooth devices are allowed in the classroom. The consequences will follow the LUHS electronics policy. Manage yourself carefully.

Class Website: The course calendar, lesson plans, and resources can be found on our class website. Go to the Lakeland Union High School website (www.luhs.k12.wi.us) and follow the links: **Academics - Departments - English - Staff - Ms. Tichacek**. From this page, click the website link, then **Honors Lit. and Comp. 9** in the top menu.

Grading Scale:

*Grades will be calculated by dividing your points by the total number of points possible.

A	100-93	C	76-73
A-	92-90	C-	72-70
B+	89-87	D+	69-67
B	86-83	D	66-63
B-	82-80	D-	62-60
C+	79-77	F	59-0

Important: Please see me about any issues you are having in this class or in any aspect of your school day. Learn to advocate and be responsible for your own learning and your own future. Freshman year is a crucial year, and I am here to help you through it and all the associated challenges in any way I can. Welcome, and thanks for making this a great year! :)



Instructional Materials in English Language Arts classes at Lakeland

Students at Lakeland read many pieces of literature as part of their English courses. In an effort to honor the beliefs and values of all students, we want families to be aware of the following LUHS School Board language and the process to follow if materials do not align with those beliefs and values:

The School Board recognizes that a course of study or certain instructional materials may contain content and/or activities that some parents find objectionable. If after a careful, personal review of the program lessons and/or materials, a parent indicates to the school that either content or activities conflict with their religious beliefs or value system, the school will honor a written request for their child to be excused from particular classes for specified reasons. The student, however, will not be excused from participating in the course or activities mandated by the State and will be provided alternative learning activities during times of parent-requested absences.

If your family has concerns about instructional materials, please contact your child's teacher.

It is important to note that by nature, many pieces of literature that deal with complex themes may include profane language, violence, and coming of age situations. This is true in both classic and young adult literature.

Additionally, students involved in Advanced Placement (AP) courses will follow a curriculum designated by the College Board. The instructional materials for AP Language and Composition and AP Literature and Composition are selected from a list provided by the College Board. As elective classes, AP courses will follow the instructional materials designated. These courses give students the chance to tackle college-level work while they're still in high school. The exams associated with these courses can earn students college credit and placement.