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; 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 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.

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 <u>excused absences</u>. For planned absences: You are responsible for the work missed. For unexcused absences: Work missed should be completed by class the next day 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.

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	С	76-73
A-	92-90	C-	72-70
B+	89-87	D+	69-67
В	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! :)