Mr. McGarvey’s English 9 Syllabus

2015-2016

Rules

1. Do not disrespect ANYONE in my classroom. That includes, but is not limited to, me, your classmates, other teachers, administrators, parents, et cetera. I’m not going to put up with it, so don’t bash other people in my class.

2. Stay in your seats when you are supposed to be sitting.

3. Only one student out of the room at a time.

4. DO NOT, I repeat DO NOT, touch my computer, iPad, or any other device without my permission (which you will never have for my desk computer).

5. I follow all NAHS policies for tardies, absences, and other rules.

Late Work

Yes, I do accept late work (within limits). There’s a catch, though. Rather than take off points for late work, for each day your work is late, you will owe me more work. For example, if there is a writing with an 800 word requirement due, and you turn it in one day late, then you owe me 850 words. Two days late it is 900 words, and so on and so forth. There will be a cap and a time limit about when I will still take work.

Grading

I assign grades by points. It is the easiest way to me. You take how many points you earned and divide them by how many points possible, and there is your grade. I also use the standard grading scale for NAHS. In addition, any 0 in INOW is an assignment that can still be made up for credit. Any grade of 0.10 cannot. I will explain this further in class.

Writing

You will write almost every day in class. Most will be short writings, ACE responses (you will know what those are shortly if you do not already), exit slips, and the like. There will be one larger writing assignment each nine weeks. In order, Narrative Writing, Informative Writing, Argumentative Writing, and a Literary Analysis. The shorter writings during each nine weeks will be a mix of these styles, with a heavier emphasis on the current larger type of writing.

Novels

You will read various novels throughout the year. Possibilities include: *White Fang* by Jack London, *A Day No Pigs Would Die* by Robert Newton Peck, *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick, *Buried Onions* by Gary Soto, *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, and other novels. If many of you have read a title, then we probably will not read it. These novels are challenging for many reasons. One positive is that they will be read almost exclusively during class.

Books

Luckily, you will not have to carry textbooks back and forth with you this year. I will have a classroom set of both Literature and Language books stored in class for your use. We will use the Literature book extensively and the Language book frequently. If you miss many days, then I can sign these out to you if absolutely necessary to get caught up with reading or work.

Materials

Supplies for my class are basic. Therefore, I expect you to always have them. You will need:

~A writing utensil (pencil or pen, not crayon or marker)

~One notebook (with perforations)/pad of paper per semester

~One folder (any color or style) for worksheets and returned work

Final Thoughts

I want you to have a good year. I want to have a good year. I expect nothing other than that. You will have to work, though. You will be able to keep up; I will, however, ask a lot of you as students. Remember that.

\*Additional Technology Piece\*

You will be utilizing technology as part of the classroom this year. For some of you, this will be old hat. For many of you, however, this will be new and challenging. One REQUIREMENT this year will be that you have a Google account. If you already have one, then you are ready to go. If you do not have one, then you will need to create one. And for those of you with limited internet access, we will do much of the technology pieces in class.