“A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies... The man who never reads lives only one.”
-George R.R. Martin A Song of Ice and Fire

9th Grade English Class Description

Welcome to Osbourn and congratulations on entering the world of high school. As you take your first steps towards graduation we look forward to helping guide you to a successful year. Throughout the year you will be reading a multitude of texts including: nonfiction, fiction, poetry, epic, drama, and short story. You will have the opportunity to develop yourself as a reader and a writer. Whether we are crafting words or analyzing texts, we sincerely hope that you will stop and enjoy our coming year together. We look forward to your success and may the odds be ever in your favor.

Unit Outline:
- Unit One- Short Stories
- Unit Two- Novel
- Unit Three- Nonfiction
- Unit Four- Drama
- Unit Five- Poetry

Grading Policy:

Students will receive grades each semester for writing assignments, tests, projects, common unit assessments, classwork/participation, and homework. Please understand that writing assignments, tests, and projects will weigh more than classwork, homework, and participation, as they require more in-depth work.

The City of Manassas grading scale is as follows:
A= 90-100
B= 80-89
C= 70-79
D= 60-69
F= Below 60
The English 9 Grading Weight is as follows:
Major Assignments = 40%
Quizzes = 30%
Classwork = 20%
Homework = 10%

**Makeup Policy:**

In the event of an absence, the student is responsible for making up any missed assignments. When a student is absent, the teacher will record the assignments missed due to the absence as “Missing.” Once the student returns from absence the due date(s) for completion of the missed assignment(s) will be determined by the teacher. If the student fails to submit the missed assignment(s) by the determined due date(s), the assignment(s) will receive a grade of zero (0). Any missing assignment(s) not submitted by the end of the marking period will also receive a grade of zero (0). Missing assignments will not be carried from marking period to marking period. See teacher syllabus for more details regarding late work grading procedures.

* Obtaining and completing make-up assignments is the responsibility of the student. **Student should initiate contact with teacher within 48 hours of their return to school in order to make arrangements for missed assignments.** The teacher is not required to remind the student of missed assignments.

*Extenuating circumstances will be determined at the discretion of the teacher and administrator on a case by case basis.

Any test missed due to absence will be made up immediately upon return or on the earliest possible day at the teacher’s discretion. A different test may be administered to a student who misses the regularly scheduled test. **Parents or students may request homework for three (3) or more consecutive absences through the Attendance Office.** The attendance office phone number is 571-377-7037. **If a request is made by 8 a.m., assignments should be available by 3 p.m. the next day in the Attendance Office.**

**Classroom Environment Expectations:**

**ATTENDANCE-** Students are expected to attend every class block. If a student misses a class block due to unavoidable circumstances it is important that the absence is reported to the school as an excused absence so that the student is not penalized for the missed time. Students must be seating in their desks when the bell rings or will be marked tardy.

**BEHAVIOR-** Students are expected to treat all students, faculty, and staff in a respectful manner. Any behavioral issues will be referred to the Dean of Students or Assistant Principal and will be followed up with parent/guardian contact.

**BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE-** Student devices are permitted to be used before or after school, during lunch, and in class for educational purposes **as instructed by the teacher.** These devices are not permitted to be used in the hallways during class changes, during tests/quizzes, or in class when prohibited by the teacher. **Headphones/earbuds & cellphones are not permitted during instruction.**
Closing Agreement
English 9
Mr. Jou

Please sign below, detach the form, and return it by September 1st/2nd for a grade. The syllabus can also be accessed on the OHS website.

**Student:** I have read and understand the material in this overview. I agree to follow the expectations and procedures presented.

Print name: ____________________________

Sign name: ____________________________

Date: ____________________________

Email*: ____________________________

(*Please print very carefully☺.)

**Parent:** I have read the preceding information and understand that my son/daughter is responsible for following the expectations and procedures presented. I agree to remind him or her of this obligation.

Print name: ____________________________

Sign name: ____________________________

Date: ____________________________

Email*: ____________________________

(*Please print very carefully☺.)