**Challenger High School 2022-2023**

Pre-AP English Language Arts 9

**CEDARS Course Code:** 01001

**Teacher’s Name: Shawn Parks Phone**:  **253-800-6800**

**Email: sparks@bethelsd.org**

**Grade Level:**  9  **Credit: 1.0 NCAA Approved**

**District Course Code:** ENG 141/142 **Prerequisite Courses:** None

**Credits:** .5/term

***Course Description*** [(from District Course Catalog)](https://www.bethelsd.org/Page/4920):

This year-long course focuses on integrating reading, writing, speaking and listening, and use of language. Students will examine a variety of literary and informational texts and authors, and reading instruction will allow students to cite textual evidence and determine main ideas and themes. Students will expand writing skills through practice on informative, explanatory, and argumentative texts, and will develop skills in organization and style. Students will also participate in a range of collaborative discussions, building on others’ ideas and clearly expressing their own. Students work toward meeting standards on the Washington State 9 - 10 ELA Learning Standards. Completion of this course is required for graduation.

*Course Schedule*

*Term 1*

**Unit 1: Short Story Analysis Duration:**

In this unit, students will engage with a variety of short stories to develop their analytical skills and deepen their understanding of literary elements and techniques. They will learn to identify plot structures, character development, symbolism, and themes through close reading and class discussions. Students will also practice writing analytical essays to communicate their interpretations effectively.

**Unit 2: Narrative Writing Duration:**

During this unit, students will explore the art of crafting compelling narratives. They will study different narrative structures, points of view, and character arcs. Through writing workshops, students will draft, revise, and polish their own narratives, focusing on plot development, character motivations, and effective dialogue.

Term 2

**Unit 3: Poetry and Figurative Language Duration:**

In this unit, students will delve into the world of poetry, learning to appreciate and analyze various poetic forms, styles, and techniques. They will explore figurative language, including simile, metaphor, personification, and symbolism. Through reading and writing poetry, students will experiment with these devices to convey emotions and imagery effectively**.**

**Unit 4: Drama:**

Students will explore the dynamics of drama by reading and analyzing plays from different genres and time periods. They will learn about stage directions, dialogue, subtext, and the unique ways that characters and themes are portrayed in this format. This unit may also include opportunities for dramatic readings, scene performances, or even small playwriting projects.

Term 3

**Unit 5: Fiction Novel Reading**

In this extended unit, students will engage with a selected fiction novel. They will analyze the novel's themes, characters, and plot development, and participate in in-depth class discussions. Through guided reading activities, journal reflections, and possibly group projects, students will develop a comprehensive understanding of the novel's literary elements and broader social and cultural contexts.

Term 4

**Unit 6: Argumentative Writing Duration:**

In this unit, students will learn the art of constructing compelling arguments through evidence-based writing. They will explore persuasive techniques, logical reasoning, and effective use of evidence. Students will choose and research a debatable topic, develop a clear thesis, and write argumentative essays that present and support their viewpoints.

*Course Objective and Goals:*

**Throughout the course, students will meet the following goals:**

* Demonstrate knowledge of foundational works of literature.
* Analyze seminal works of literary nonfiction and evaluate their structure and reasoning.
* Analyze the impact of an author’s choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a text.
* Demonstrate increasing sophistication in the routine and process of writing.
* Learn to use Standard English from a variety of grammar lessons.

***Bethel School District Priority Standards***(or industry standards addressed):

* Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.
* Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.
* Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone).
* Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.
* Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
* Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9-10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

**Teacher and Course Expectations**

***Assignments will include:***

* Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks
* Assignments in which you apply and extend learning in each lesson
* Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams

**Grading Policy**

In order to create a comprehensive and fair grading policy that encourages active participation, critical thinking, and growth in the 9th grade Pre-AP English class, the following components will be incorporated: daily quick tasks, collaborative activities, reading and writing assignments, and a heavily weighted embedded assessment.

**Daily Quick Tasks (10%**): These tasks are designed to assess students' understanding of the material covered during the class session. They can include quick quizzes, vocabulary exercises, comprehension questions, or reflections. The purpose of these tasks is to ensure that students are consistently engaged with the course material and to reinforce their comprehension of key concepts.

**Collaborative Activities (25%)**: Collaborative activities encourage students to work together to explore ideas, analyze texts, and solve problems. Group discussions, peer reviews, literature circles, and collaborative projects will be included. This component aims to foster communication skills, critical thinking, and the ability to collaborate effectively with peers.

**Reading and Writing Assignments (40%)**: Reading and writing are essential skills in English language arts. This category includes various types of assignments such as essays, literary analyses, creative writing pieces, and reading responses. These assignments will assess students' ability to analyze texts, articulate ideas coherently, and use textual evidence to support their arguments.

**Embedded Assessment (25%)**: The embedded assessment is a substantial project that integrates various skills and concepts covered throughout the term. It could be a research paper, a literary analysis essay, or a multimedia presentation. This assessment is heavily weighted to reflect the culmination of students' learning and their ability to synthesize and apply what they have learned in a meaningful way.

***Grading Scale:***

A: 100-94, A-: 93.99-90

B+ 89.99-87, B: 86.99-84, B-: 83.99-80

C+: 79.99-77, C: 76.99-74, C-: 73.99-70

D+: 69.99-67, D: 66.99-64, D-: 63.99-60

F: 59.99-0.

**Textbook: *Springboard English Language Arts I***