



# English 9

2019-2020

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## Course Description

English 9 emphasizes reading and writing skills with a strong foundation in grammar and literary terms with exposure to the various aspects of communication including speaking, listening, viewing, and critical thinking. Students' readings will cover a variety of genres, and students' writing will cover both informational pieces and creative pieces.

## Materials

ALWAYS bring a charged laptop  
Pen/pencil

## Skyward Grading

	Term Grades (MHS Policy)	Grading Scale (MHS Policy)
	<b>Fall</b> Quarter 1=40% Quarter 2=40% End of Course Assessment=20%	A=90%-100% B=80%-89% C=70%-79% D=60%-69% F=Below 60%
	<b>Spring</b> Quarter 3=40% Quarter 4=40% End of Course Assessment=20%	

## Make-Up Work (MHS Policy)

Papers, assignments, tests, etc. that were announced while the student was in attendance prior to the absence are due to be submitted or completed on the day the student returns to school. A student will be allowed two (2) school days for each day of excused absence to make up material presented during the absence. Make-up time is not to exceed ten (10) days from the time a student returns to school after an absence. Additional time may be granted at the principal's discretion under extenuating circumstances. When a student has been absent for three (3) or more consecutive school days due to illness or excused absence the parent or student may call the Attendance Office to request make-up homework be sent to the office for pick-up. Please allow 24 hours for teachers to respond before coming to the office to pick up work. **In the case of pre-arranged absences, it is the responsibility of the student to contact individual teachers for any make-up work prior to the absence.**

## Late Work

Grades should always be a reflection of what the student knows and how proficient the student is in the assessed standard. Therefore, there is no late policy in this class. All students are expected to complete the required coursework to show their proficiency in standards, but students will not be (permanently) academically penalized for turning in something later than other students. Because there are a required number of standards we need to cover in this course, and standards build on one another, there will be due dates for coursework, but if students need extra time to complete assignments they will not be (permanently) academically penalized.

\*\*\*\*All students are expected to complete the required coursework. Though students will not lose points on an assignment for turning the assignment in late, students will not receive credit for that assignment until it is turned in. This means that there will be a temporary zero and “missing” mark in Skyward until the assignment is turned in. After that assignment is turned in, the grade will only reflect how well the student did on the assignment, not the amount of time it took to complete.

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## Grades

Student grades will be reflective of their proficiency in the state standards. Each unit will have specific standards taught and assessed. Students are responsible for showing what they know and proving their skill in the assigned standards.

Students are accountable for learning. This means that students are required to complete all assignments that are necessary to show proficiency and skills in standards and that they have learned the material. Each assignment has a projected due date to help keep students on track. However, if a student does not turn in an assignment by the due date, he or she is still required to show their learning and complete the assignment. The assignment will be marked as zero and missing until it is turned in (see “Late Work” policy).

For all formative and summative assessments: if a student has completed the assessment but not yet shown proficiency, he or she will be required to complete a reassessment when prepared to show proficiency and/or new knowledge to the teacher.

**Missing Work:** If a student is missing an assignment, Mrs. McGhee will notify the student via documented note that lists the assignment and when it was due. Students may work in Mrs. McGhee’s room before school, at lunch, or after school to complete the assignment. Students may also complete the assignment outside of class.

Parents/guardians will also be notified via email of the missing assignment.

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## **Classroom Rules and Procedures**

Be on time and in your assigned seat.

Be **prepared each day** with the appropriate materials.

Be respectful to the teacher and fellow classmates.

Do not throw anything.

Stay on task and on topic.

Dress appropriately.

**Seating chart:** Mrs. McGhee will ALWAYS have a seating chart for the class. If you are not successful or if you are hindering the success of another student in your assigned seat, your seat will be changed at the teacher's discretion. The seating chart will periodically change throughout the year.

**Cell phones and laptops:** See the attached electronic devices policy.

**Food and Drink:** Water is always permitted. Ask permission to drink or eat anything else in class. If a student is using their laptop, food and drink must remain off of the desk. \*\*\*You will not be able to receive food or drink deliveries in class.

**Dress Code:** If a student is violating handbook policy with their dress, they will not be permitted in class. They will be sent to the office until they acquire appropriate clothes. Refer to the student handbook for the policy.

### **Daily Procedures:**

- **Beginning of class:** Class will begin with a bellringer activity immediately after the tardy bell has rung.
- **During class:** Raise your hand to share a comment or question in class and/or stay on topic during partner discussions. Keep in mind The Golden Rule during class: Treat others the way you want to be treated.
- **End of class:** All students pick up and put away their own materials after class work is complete and Mrs. McGhee has confirmed it is ok to do so. Students are responsible for their own materials, but may leave English binder in cabinet if desired.
- **Leaving early** from class is never permitted without properly being checked out. A pass must be brought for the student, or the office must contact the classroom teacher to release the student. A student that leaves early without permission will be marked truant in Skyward. This rule is in effect from the very first day of school to the very last day of school. Leaving early is defined as a student walking out of the classroom before the bell sounds excusing them from class, OR before the teacher has permitted students to leave. The teacher WILL NOT change the truancy in Skyward for any reason if a student leaves early without permission.
- **DO NOT LINE UP AT THE DOOR AT THE END OF CLASS.** This is an unnecessary safety hazard.

## Consequences

**Tardiness and/or absences-** You are considered tardy if you are not in the classroom at the end of the tardy bell. You will be marked absent if you do not come to class within ten minutes of the tardy bell (even if you arrive after that ten minutes).

**Inappropriate behavior on school grounds** will not be tolerated. Any violation of classroom norms and expectations will be considered inappropriate behavior. You will be asked to refrain from said behavior upon the first violation and parents will be notified. For a second violation you will be asked to wait in the hall for a conference with me and parents will be notified. For a third violation a call will be made to your parents and a conference will be requested with a counselor or other administrator. Steps one and two may be skipped if infraction is deemed insubordinate or threatening.

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## Academic Integrity (MHS Policy)

All work submitted by a student must represent his/her own ideas, concepts, and current understanding. All material found during research must be correctly documented/cited to avoid plagiarism. Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing on course assignments or exams will lose credit for that assignment or exam, and the teacher will notify parents. Students are still responsible for learning and will be required to complete the assignment using their own thoughts and ideas.

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## Student & Parent Resources

School Website: <http://mhs.ms134.org/>

Google Classroom: <http://classroom.google.com>

## Exceptions/Accommodations

The rules, procedures, expectations, etc. outlined in the syllabus may be changed or altered by the teacher at any time, and students will be made aware of changes.

The teacher may make an exception for a student going through an extraordinary experience/circumstance that requires a change in policy.

\*\*\*\*ANY STUDENT with a legal, documented accommodation is ALWAYS exempt from rules, procedures, etc. outlined in this syllabus THAT INTERFERE WITH THEIR LEGAL ACCOMMODATION. All accommodations will be met by the classroom teacher. Students should make themselves aware of their accommodations so that they can work with the classroom teacher, using the accommodation to make them successful.

## Electronic Devices Policy

### Personal Electronic Devices (Cell Phones/Ipods/EReaders/Etc.)

Middleton High School issues laptops (1:1 program) for student use which makes the use of cell phones during class time a non-negotiable, unnecessary accessory. Due to the increasing amount of distractions, behavioral issues, cheating, and non-educational use in the classroom, cell phones **WILL NOT BE** allowed in Mrs. McGhee's classroom. With parent and/or guardian permission, a student will be required to relinquish his/her cell phone into a cell phone storage container at the start of class. Students will not be able to access the cell phone storage container except at the beginning and end of class with teacher permission. Mrs. McGhee will not have any contact with a student's phone at anytime unless the phone is to be sent to the office. If a parent and/or guardian chooses not to allow his/her son/daughter to store his/her cell phone in the storage container, cell phones must remain out of sight in the classroom; cell phones which become visible at any time for any reason will be sent to the front office. **All cell phones that are sent to the front office can only be picked up by a parent/guardian after school.** Laptops and any other electronic devices that are used inappropriately or are out without being asked will also be sent to the office to be picked up by a parent.

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I give my son/daughter permission to store his/her cell phone in the classroom provided cell phone holder.

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Name (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

I do not give permission for my son/daughter to store his/her cell phone in the cell phone storage container. I understand that his/her phone must remain out of sight at all times and that if it is sent to the office only a parent or guardian can pick it up after school.

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Name (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

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I have read and understand the content, policies, and procedures outlined in Mrs. McGhee's syllabus.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Name (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

*Please return this form to Mrs. McGhee no later than Friday, August 23, 2019.*