

## **BHSN English 9 Honors Syllabus**

### **Course Description and Objectives:**

Welcome to English 9 Honors. This year we will be reading and critically examining a variety of literature. Through this course, I hope that we will be able to gain an understanding of the world of literature and also an enjoyment for reading and writing. This course will challenge you to think critically, and examine both your own writing and that of others. This course will be based on class discussion and critical interpretations of texts both orally and through writing. It is important to note that in this class the word “critical” does not have a negative connotation (meaning), but that it means to develop an interpretation/understanding of a text by closely examining a text (the language it uses, the figurative devices, the characters, etc.) and thoughtfully coming to conclusions about the text.

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**Classroom Rules:**

1. **Respect** yourself, each other, and me, as well as all guests in our classroom.
2. Come to class with a good **attitude!**
3. Come to class **prepared** everyday.

**Materials Needed:** You will need the following materials with you, in class, each day.

- Pen or pencil
- Folder or binder to keep graded assignments and handouts
- Device\*
- Composition notebook (to be kept in the classroom as your journal and notes)
- Any readings or homework assignments

\*Your device must be charged and powered up at the beginning of each class period.

**Grading Procedures\*\*:** I want everyone to thrive in this class and learn worthwhile skills. That being said, I do not give grades, you earn them. There are three crucial things you need to do in order to do well: (1) be present – physically and mentally, (2) do your work – complete and turn in all assignments on time, and (3) always give your best effort.

**\*\*Note:** I am available outside of class in order to provide support if you are struggling with an assignment, confused on a concept, or would prefer feedback before presenting material to the class. *However, please let me know ahead of time when you will be coming in to make sure I am available and do not have another appointment.*

**Reading:** While much of the reading will be done in class, you will also be given some out-of-class reading assignments for homework. When reading in class, you are expected to follow along, pay attention, and participate in the corresponding discussion. For at-home readings, you are expected to complete the reading, prepare any accompanying assignments for class, and participate in a quiz or class discussion on the day the reading is due.

**Grading Scale:** Grades are calculated as a percentage out of total points.

100-90	A Range
89-80	B Range
79-70	C Range
69-60	D Range
50 or Below	F

**Plagiarism and Cheating: Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated in this course.** Students will be referred to the office and receive a zero on any assignment where they are caught plagiarizing or cheating. If you have questions on what plagiarism is, you will receive a handout and you may always ask me.

**Late Work:** Students will be given one extension pass per term (a 6-week marking period). Late work may be turned in the day after it is due with an extension pass, which should be stapled to the front of the assignment. **Late work will not be accepted without an extension pass.** If a student does not use an extension pass, it may be turned in at the end of the term for *extra credit*. **Assignments due during the last week of a term are not eligible for an extension, even with a pass.**

**Cell Phones:** Cell phones must ALWAYS be out-of-sight and silent, unless otherwise specified. While there will be times that cell phones are allowed in class, and those times will be designated. If you are caught using your phone for unspecified purposes, it will be taken away.

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If you have any questions or concerns, I encourage you to contact me by email at [mkoussi@mccsc.edu](mailto:mkoussi@mccsc.edu) or by phone, ext. 53224.