English 9 Course Syllabus

**Course Title: Grade Level: Instructor:**

English 9 9th GradeMr. Garrison

[David.Garrison@salinasuhsd.org](mailto:David.Garrison@salinasuhsd.org)

**Course Description:**

This course emphasizes the integration of reading, writing, speaking, and listening to develop proper English usage, critical thinking, and personal growth. It is rigorous, but success is attainable for all (individually or with help.)

**Textbooks: Novels and Plays:**

College Board’s *SpringBoard To Kill a Mockingbird*

*Romeo & Juliet*

**Accountability:**

Success in my class can be achieved through dedication and hard work. I will provide you with all the tools necessary to be successful, but ultimately **you** are responsible for living up to your potential; if you need help, COME GET HELP! The class website ([**www.GarrisonsWorld.weebly.com**](http://www.GarrisonsWorld.weebly.com)) has this syllabus, my contact information and availability, the class calendar, a link to the online version of the textbook, links to **ParentVUE** and **StudentVUE** for checking your grades and missing assignments, and many other useful resources. The class website also has information on how to sign up to the class **Remind.com** account. (join code **k2484b**)

**Letter Grades:**

**Citizenship:** In addition to a letter grade, students will receive a citizenship mark (O for outstanding, S for satisfactory, U for unsatisfactory) for behavior and attendance. Receiving a “U,” be it from unacceptable behavior or 5+ tardies in a quarter can result in a student’s exclusion from clubs, sports teams, and class/school events.

90%-100% = A

80%-89.9% = B

70%-79.9% = C

60%-69.9% = D

< 59% = F

**NOTICE:** This is an English class; writing essays is required and they are **35% of a student’s grade.** **The *highest grade* a student can get without essays is a 65% D.**

**Grade Categories and Weight**

* Classwork and Homework (30%)
* **Essays (35%)**
* Formative Assessments (0% - info only)
* Projects and Presentations (17.5%)
* Tests and Quizzes (17.5%)

**Late Work:** Homework is due near the beginning of class unless otherwise specified. Anything received after homework has been collected can be considered late. Late work will be accepted **at teacher discretion** and will incur a reduction in score.I typically grade late work every Friday after school.

**Essay Resubmissions:** Essays are how you demonstrate your critical thinking, English proficiency, and grasp of the necessary skills presented in English classes past and present. A poor essay score can be detrimental to your overall class grade but may be improved by working with me outside of class. (see my availability on the class website)

**Absences:** If you know you’re going to be absent in the future, let me know in advance - e-mail is acceptable. If you’re unexpectantly absent or out sick, send me an e-mail so that I may try to catch you up. It is also a good practice to exchange contact information with a classmate that can fill you in. You are responsible for what you miss and it is your responsibility to make arrangements to make up any missed assignments or examinations in a timely fashion upon your return to school. I also recommend checking Google Classroom for any new assignments.

**Expectations:**

1. **Do your best** (focus on being a good student)
2. **Be prepared** (on-time with necessary supplies on-hand, out, and ready to go)
3. **Respect your classmates, your teacher(s,) your classroom, your school, and *yourself!*** (Respectful language and behavior, diligence, etc.)

These points will be discussed in further detail in class and are subject to be amended. All student rules and policies outlined in the Everett Alvarez High School Student Handbook are also in effect. **Personal electronics, food, and non-sealing beverage containers must be put away out of sight and not used/consumed during class time unless otherwise specified. Failure to comply can result in the item(s) being confiscated. Food/drinks can be claimed at the end of the class period and personal electronics are available to be reclaimed at the end of the school day, pending teacher availability.**

**Consequences:**

My goal is to provide students with a distraction-free environment to optimize class time and facilitate learning. Defiance of class and/or school expectations does a disservice to the whole class rather than just me, and consequences will be in line with school policy and my discretion.

**Supplies:**

In the past I have required a standalone 1.5” English binder with eight tabbed dividers due to the large amount of handouts, worksheets and writing involved in class. Now that every student is issued a Chromebook and given access to Google Classroom, this year I am making an effort to become more digital for the sake of the environment and only requiring the following:

* At least one #2 pencil (standard or mechanical) with eraser
* At least one pen (blue or black ink)
* Five three-ring binder dividers with customizable tabs. They do not need to have pockets but should be organized in a binder in such a way that they are not confused with tabs/dividers from other classes. The tabs should be labeled as follows:
  + Word of the Day (or any abbreviation that fits, such as WotD)
  + Academic Vocabulary (or any abbreviation that fits, such as A. Vocab or Academic V.)
  + Notes
  + Classwork & Homework (or any abbreviation that fits, such as CW and HW)
  + Miscellaneous Handouts (or any abbreviation that fits, such as Misc. Handouts)
* Three-ring loose-leaf binder paper (or a three-ring notebook with perforated edges. No ‘confetti’ paper.)

Students are expected to have the required supplies every class unless told otherwise. It is also a school expectation that students bring their (charged) Chromebook to each class. As the textbook is also available online (see class website for link,) English textbooks may be kept in the appropriate cabinet in my room at your own risk.

**Potent Quotable:**

*"A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies. The man who never reads lives only one." - George R. R. Martin*

Both student and parent/guardian have read this syllabus and acknowledge its contents:

Student Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Parent/Guardian Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_