

TPHS Course Profile

English 9 Honors



9th Grade (10 Credits)

- Meets high school graduation requirement for English
- Meets the UC/CSU subject area "B" requirement

General Information

Description

This intellectually challenging year-long course is organized around the study literary genres, including short stories, novels, autobiography, drama, poetry, and expository texts; additionally, students will learn advanced skills in grammar. Honors students will be expected to demonstrate independent critical thinking skills and to function at a faster pace, as more works of literature will be covered at a deeper analytical level than college prep classes. Assignments including meaningful class discussions, journaling, creative projects, speeches, and theater arts are all incorporated into the curriculum. With an expectation that students already have an understanding of the fundamentals of literary analysis, honor students should be able to construct a multi-paragraph essay. Additionally, students will practice writing several other modes of writing including argument, narrative and creative. Using the core curriculum, teachers work to assist students in mastering the California Common Core State Standards for Language Arts. For English-Language Arts standards, please visit the link: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/finalelaccsstandards.pdf>

Expectations and Goals

Ideally, students entering English 9 Honors should have scored Exceeded Standards in the English Language Arts category for CAASP state testing, as well as earned an "A" in an 8 Honors English class. Additionally, students entering 9 Honors already have a good understanding of the following:

Reading:

- Thorough comprehension & critical analysis of grade-level text
- Critiquing non-fiction and expository text
- Avid recreational readers

Writing:

- Writing critical analysis essays
- Developing main ideas with supporting concrete evidence
- Constructing a thesis that presents an educated argument and thoroughly connects insightful thematic ideas

Speaking:

- Logically support perspectives and judgments with convincing evidence
- Deliver well-planned presentations
- Deliver presentations that incorporate technology

Grammar Conventions:

- Sophisticated use of varied sentence types
- Consistent use of parallelism to present items in a series

- Consistent use of subordination, coordination, apposition to indicate relationship between ideas
- Consistent use of correct punctuation, spelling and capitalization

Estimated Homework

A 9th grade Honors English 9 student should expect 20 to 30 pages of independent reading each class period, and/or approximately 60-120 minutes of homework per week. (A student's individual ability level and competency may affect the actual preparation times needed.)

This Class Is Best For...

Students who choose 9th Grade College Prep English may fit the following description:

- Is passionate about English - a strong, experienced, avid reader
- Has interests in careers related to English
- Demonstrates exceptional work ethic and is self-motivated
- Masters concepts quickly; requires fast-paced, rigorous curriculum
- Loves the challenges of complex, critical-thinking problems; can solve them without assistance and can often take them to a higher level without being asked; thrives on "nonroutine" problems
- Is inquiry-driven in this particular curricular area; asks "Why?" and "What if...?"; wants to know or figure out the theory behind the concept
- Is a divergent thinker who may come up with his or her own problem-solving methods in subject area
- Seeks competitive classroom environment as a medium for critical reading, intensive writing, and thought-provoking discussion of literature
- Keeps a well-organized notebook, takes detailed notes, and works well in cooperative learning groups.

Course Materials

Works Typically Read

Students will typically read 6 works from the following list:

- Anthology (short stories / poetry)
- *Antigone*
- *Lord of the Flies*
- *Black Boy*
- *Of Mice and Men*
- *The Bean Trees*
- *Romeo and Juliet*
- *The Odyssey*
- *A Tale of Two Cities*
- *Great Expectations*