

Westford Academy Mission Statement

Westford Academy, in collaboration with home and community, provides a safe environment where high expectations advance academic excellence. We are committed to promoting integrity and critical thinking, while fostering tolerance and life-long learning in an ever-changing global society.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS ENGLISH 9 CP1

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

In this course, we study drama, poetry, nonfiction, short stories, and the novel in well defined units, each lasting approximately nine weeks. The reading is extensive; we will be using *the Prentice Hall Literature - Gold Level* as our standard text. Among the core readings are *Night*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Speak*, and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Short stories, non-fiction, and poetry come from a variety of sources. The study of vocabulary and its text is drawn from the reading and workbook. There are writing assignments whose topics will vary from the personal to the analytical and persuasive. There are public speaking opportunities during each quarter.

SPECIFIC EXPECTATIONS

1. Students are expected to attend each class and to arrive on time. Be in your seat and ready to go when the bell rings. Do Not Be Late. If students have to be absent, they are held responsible for making up any work missed the next day – per the student handbook. This is your responsibility.
2. Proper in-class behavior is a factor in the grading process. Please be **respectful** of other students. This includes their property, opinions, ideas and **your language**. Language that is disrespectful will not be tolerated.
3. Students are to come prepared to every class, with notebook, pens, and class reading (texts). Please use black or blue ink.
4. Percentage of grades are as follows:

Participation: 10%
Homework: 15%
Quizzes: 20%
Tests/Essays/Projects: 55%
5. Assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the day they are due. Late assignments are not appreciated and are subject to point deductions for each day an assignment is late. This is at the teacher's discretion.

Homework: 50% if late
Quizzes / Tests: will receive a score of a 0% if not made up in a timely manner.
Essays / Projects: 10 points per day.
6. Extra help is available before and after school and during my planning periods.
NOTE: *If you are in need of help or assistance, it is best to make an appointment - this way I will know that you are coming.*
7. Students are required to pay for damaged or lost school-owned materials at the current price.
8. If a substitute teacher is covering class, students are expected to behave in a courteous and attentive manner.

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9. Academic Honesty: The Westford Academy Student Handbook defines plagiarism as providing materials (tests, quizzes, projects or papers) to another student from a current or previously taken course; copying another student's work or working with other students to complete an assignment when not instructed to do so by the teacher; purposeful communication of information or use of unauthorized resources during a testing environment; and purposeful distribution of work/answers via printed, electronic, or verbal format to other students when such work will be considered for grading purposes, using the same work to fulfill two assignments and/or fabricating or "fudging" data, information, or sources.

First time violators will be subject to Dean and parent/guardian notification and a second offense will bring automatic suspension from school. **Furthermore, students found responsible for this action will NOT receive honor/high honor distinction for that specific marking period.**

10. It is strongly recommended that each student have in his or her possession a USB removable storage device. This device will allow the transfer of files to and from school, which will help alleviate any printer issues, homework issues, and will allow work to be done at home and at school.
11. Technology. While I love technology, I do pay attention to the **Westford Academy Acceptable Use of Computers/Electronic Devices** component of the school handbook. Acceptable use of the electronic information services requires that the use of these resources be in accordance with the following guidelines and support the educational goals of the Westford Public Schools. That means no phone calls, texting, emails, games, or any other non-academic app during class time.
12. Please, no early lines to leave class. I take it personally that you want to hurry up and wait to leave my class.
13. Finally, you are expected to use my webpage for all information. My webpage has all kinds of interesting links that will help you study and get ahead. Please take advantage of these resources.

PLEASE PRINT STUDENT NAME: _____

BLOCK: _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____

I have read and understood the above criteria for our class. My signature represents that I agree to abide by the rules set forth.

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

My signature represents that I have read and understood the above criteria for my child.