**English 9 Course Syllabus**

**Mrs. Whitney Simpson**

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**Course Syllabus**

In English 9, we focus on literature, grammar, vocabulary, and writing. We will begin the year with a novel unit on Elie Wiesel’s *Night*. We will then go through a short story unit, *A Christmas* Carol, a poetry unit, study Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*, and complete a novel study on George Orwell’s *Animal Farm*. You will be given homework, chapter quizzes, and projects with each major piece that we study. It is important that you stay on top of your reading (most of which will be done in class together) and studying for your quizzes and tests. We will use ACT vocabulary words each week. You will be assigned a set of 10 words per week, complete vocabulary squares, and quiz once we reach 30 words.

**Classroom Rules**

All rules of the school handbook will also be enforced. These rules make our classroom a peaceful and productive learning environment. I do not tolerate anyone inhibiting the learning of my students, nor disrespect. We are here to work together and do it well.

1. Be Responsible
2. Be Respectful
3. Be Prepared
4. Be On Time
5. Be Positive

**Supply List**

1. One three-ring binder (2 inch)
2. One composition book
3. Loose-leaf notebook paper
4. Pencils

\*Due to the large number of 9th grade students this year, our classroom novels are limited in number. If you wish to purchase your child a copy of *Night*, *Animal Farm,* and *A Christmas Carol*, they would be able to bring these back and forth from school to home and use them to complete assignments and study. This may be more helpful than only having the book in class.

**Class Organization**

All of your class materials will be kept in your three-ring binder. You must bring this binder to class every day. Bell Work will be posted on the board daily and must be completed in your journal folder. These journals will be taken up and graded every few weeks. If there are entries you did not complete, that will result in points taken off. If you miss class, this will be a part of your make up work. You are to be in your seat with your folder and working when the tardy bell rings. I do not require, but I do suggest, buying a planner to write down all assignments that are due. Organization is a key to success in our class.

**Cell Phone Policy**

Cell phones are to be used between classes and during lunch, not in the classroom. Occasionally, we may use smartphones for learning purposes in the classroom. However, when we do not, they should be kept out of sight. If you are seen on your phone, I will give you a verbal warning the first time. However, I will take it away any time after.

**Absences/Make-Up Work**

Students are responsible for making up any work they missed while they were absent. When you return to school, you must check your class folder and ask your teacher for any work that you missed. It would be most helpful to also get any missed notes from a trusted classmate.

**Tardies**

Being on time to class is important. We begin our class period with Bell Work in our journals that you should not miss, since it counts as a daily grade. A student is considered tardy if he/she is not in their desk when the tardy bell rings. In accordance with school policy, each time a student accumulates three tardies, he/she will be given a discipline referral turned in to the office.

**Remind 101 App**

This is a free reminder messaging service that I will use to send announcements and reminders of due dates and tests. To sign up for our class reminders, please text the message @english9ws to 81010, or email [english9ws@mail.remind.com](mailto:english9ws@mail.remind.com) to sign up if you prefer it to be sent to your email.

**Grades**

* 50% Daily Work – class assignments, worksheets, journals, notes
* 50% tests, papers, projects

Report cards will be sent out according to the school calendar.

Parents and Students,

Welcome to Milan High School and to English 9! I am looking forward to a wonderful year of learning with you and your child. I believe that parent communication is key to your student’s success. Therefore, I want you to know that if you have any question or concern throughout the year, please do not hesitate to contact me. You may email me at [simpsonw@milanssd.org](mailto:simpsonw@milanssd.org), call the school at 731-686-0841, or schedule a meeting with me through the office staff. As you have seen in our syllabus, I will also be using the Remind app to update both you and your child with announcements and reminders of when things are due. I highly encourage you to download this to stay up to date with our class. Please sign this detachable portion below to indicate that you have read and agree with the course syllabus, and to provide me with your contact information. I’m excited for a great year ahead!

Mrs. Whitney Simpson

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I have read and agree to comply with Mrs. Simpson’s rules and standards for English 9.

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

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

Contact Phone Numbers:

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
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3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Does your student have any allergies that I need to be aware of? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please tell me anything you think I need to know about your child that would help me to teach him/her better this school year. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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