English 8 Syllabus

**Mr. Waterman**

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Conference Hour: 2nd Hour 9:08-9:56

English 8

English 8 covers literature, grammar, word usage, career exploration and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Literature will utilize various genres of literature to improve reading skills and link writing exercises for different purposes to those reading selections. We will be reading classroom novels as well as personal novels and will be completing assignments for both. Grammar includes parts of speech, sentence fragments and run-on sentences, subject and verb agreement, capitalization and punctuation. Writing, using the writing process, includes single paragraph assignments, multi-paragraph assignments and research reports. Career exploration includes using the Career Cruising website. We will be using Chromebooks in class to expand on materials available for the students. We will be using an online textbook that will also be accessible from home. Students will be given a set of earbuds at the beginning of the year to use with the Chromebooks. If they are damaged, they may purchase a new pair from the office for two dollars or bring some from home. They will be required to have them for class, as many of the lessons will include audio.

Expectations

Every student in this class is expected to push himself/herself to do well. In order to do well you must put a lot of effort into doing so. You must participate regularly in classroom discussion, activities, and group work. I fully believe that you will get from this course as much as you put into it. Get ready for a GREAT year!

Materials you need every day

* Completed Homework: In order to do well in this course, any course for that matter, you must complete your homework and turn it in on time.
* Class Folder or Notebook: Make sure to bring this folder or notebook with you every day.
* Pen/pencil:
* Personal Reading Book: You are expected to bring a book to read every day.

Rules to Live By…

1. Rules regarding behavior, dress code, attendance, cheating, etc. will be enforced according to the handbook These rules will be strictly enforced.

2. Respect yourself, your classmates, your teachers, and your school. No one has the right to interfere with the learning of anyone else in this class! Manners, courtesy, and kindness are important in this classroom as well as in life.

3. Respect the property of others and the school.

General Guidelines:

Leaving Class

Use your best judgment when deciding to ask to go to the bathroom. Before you leave, sign-out and acquire the appropriate pass. I check the sign-out sheet regularly, so if I see that you are out of class too often, I reserve the right to revoke your right to leave the class.

Beginning of Class Procedures

Students should be in their seats and ready for class once the bell rings, to avoid being counted tardy. The day’s agenda will be written on the board each day. Once the bell sounds, students need to be seated and working on the day’s bell ringer. This is the procedure for the beginning of class every day. It is important that anything on the board be copied, as there are random notebook checks.

Food

Students may have water but no food or other beverages

Tardiness

A tardy is given when a student is not in their seat once the bell rings. If this occurs, be sure to head to the attendance office to pick up a tardy pass.

Leaving Your Seat

It is rude to walk around the classroom, especially during class instruction. If a student needs to sharpen his or her pencil, it should be done at the beginning of class. Should the pencil lead break and the student needs to sharpen his or her pencil during the middle of class, he or she should ask for permission. The same rule applies to the need for paper. Paper that needs to be thrown away should be kept at the student’s desk until the end of class.

Dismissal

The bell is an indicator to the teacher that the class period has ended. It is the teacher’s responsibility to dismiss students after bringing the class to a close. If the teacher or another student is in the middle of a sentence when the bell rings, please allow them to complete it. I realize that students have other classes to go to, and I do not want to keep students from going to their other classes.

Absences and Make-up Work

If you are absent one day, you have one day to make up the work. If you are absent two days, you may have two days to make up the work, etc. If you encounter an extended absence, see me for due dates. If you are here the day that the assignment is given, you are expected to turn it in when you return. If you do not, it will be considered late.

Late Work

For each day that an assignment is late, the grade will be reduced by 10%.

Grading Scale

The following chart is the grading scale for this class.

100 – 93% = A 77 – 74% = C+ 60 – 56% = D-

 92 – 88% = A- 73 – 71% = C 55 & below = E

 87 – 84% = B+ 70 – 68% = C-

 83 – 81% = B 67 – 64% = D+

 80 – 78 % = B- 63 – 61% = D

Student grades are periodically updated on Skyward, our BCHS On-line Grading System. There are links to this system through our website. A printed copy of this syllabus is available upon request.