

ENGL 9

MR. BONNER

Period 2 | 2019/20

COURSE DESCRIPTION:



Contact Information:

- Room 2003
- tbonner@rockyview.ab.ca
- @mrbonner
- bonnerbertchurch.weebly.com

Course Objectives:

- To develop an ability to communicate with increasing maturity, logic, and clarity in both written and verbal forms.
- To increase the ability to listen, speak, view, read, write, and represent in a logical, coherent, and clearly defined manner.
- To relate literary (and other mediums) experiences to own personal experience and to broaden knowledge of own cultural heritage through the enjoyment of literature; to respond personally to a variety of texts.
- To develop the ability to make informed critical responses to literature (and other mediums) through understanding and appreciation of form, structure, and style.
- To use writing and other forms of representation to: explore, clarify, and reflect on thoughts, feelings, experiences, and learning; to use imagination.
- To create texts collaboratively and independently, using a variety of forms for a range of audiences and purposes.

The Inevitability of Change

Through literature, students learn to explore possibilities and consider options for themselves and human kind. They come to find themselves, imagine others, value difference, and search for justice. They gain connectedness and seek vision. They become the literate thinkers we need to shape the decisions of tomorrow." Judith Langer

MATERIALS:

- ✓ A binder, in order and up-to-date, complete with both lined paper.
- ✓ Several HB pencils & pens, eraser, and a few highlighters.
- ✓ Post-it Notes, Pencil crayons, poster paper, and other additional materials may be required for some projects. Notification will be provided.
- ✓ A pocket dictionary and/or thesaurus (recommended).
- ✓ Class textbooks, novels, and other materials;
- ✓ A positive attitude and a willingness to participate.

English Language Arts 9 immerses students in the study of language and **literature**, developing and expanding upon the fundamental **reading**, **writing**, and language skills that students have studied previously.

Through ELA 9, students will continue to study and apply the knowledge and skills that will allow them to be successful in this course, on their Provincial Achievement Exam, and in senior high English Language Arts courses.

The time designated to any one unit may vary, depending on the number and type of skills and activities to be integrated into that theme. However, in any one genre, the six essential strands: **listening**, **speaking**, **reading**, **writing**, **viewing**, & **representing** will be used to complete the following **GENERAL OUTCOMES**:

- 1 Explore thoughts, ideas, feelings, and experiences.
- 2 Comprehend and respond personally and critically to oral, print, and other media texts.
- 3 Manage ideas and information.
- 4 Enhance the clarity and artistry of communication.
- 5 Respect, support, and collaborate with others.



provides information about your grades and attendance. It can be accessed at the above link or by following the links on the school's webpage:
bertchurch.rockyview.ab.ca/parents/powerschool

ABSENCES:

- It is always the student's responsibility to determine, and complete, any evaluative activity has been missed.

EXCUSED ABSENCE:

- An excused absence occurs when a parent or guardian phones the school at 403-948-3800 (24 hours a day) to report an absence. Telephone calls from students are not acceptable, unless the student has "adult status" confirmed by the administration of BCHS. Parents are requested to phone in advance of the absence if possible. If that is not possible, parents must call the day of the absence, or no later than the day after the absence (i.e. within 24 hours) if it is to be excused. Notes received from parents within this time frame are also acceptable.
- If a student is excusably absent from class on days during which an assignment, quiz, examination or other evaluation activity occurs, the student shall be given the opportunity to make up the missed work through either the original or replacement work at the teacher's discretion.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE:

- An unexcused absence includes those absences for which no phone call or note has been received within 24 hours following the absence. If the student misses a class where there is an assignment due or a quiz or exam written, the work will be awarded a designation of "NHI" (Not Handed In), which constitutes a zero for the purpose of calculating grades. (Chapter S-3, Part 1.14, School Act, 2000)

LATE ARRIVAL:

EXPECTATIONS

- Students will attend class every day, prepared to work, with a writing utensil, an organized binder, and any other supplies or textbooks that are being used for the unit being studied.
- Food may be used responsibly, but teachers have the right to disallow food if garbage, or allergies, become an issue.
- Students will treat the teacher and fellow classmates with respect. Everyone has a right to be heard and to learn in a secure environment.
- Students will treat the property of the school and the property of others in a proper manner.
- Students will not let anything impair their ability to communicate (cell phones, MP3 players, hats, etc.) and the teacher may confiscate the item if it becomes an issue.

An educationally functional electronic device as outlined by Bert Church High School policy is an asset. If such a device is to be used, it is expected that students will bring their device to class with charge sufficient for use throughout the period.



Cell phones do not meet the requirements outlined in this policy, and significant research reveals that such devices are significant distractions to student learning and impediments to success. As such, cell phones, tablets, and other non-educational electronic devices should not be used in-class unless expressly directed by the teacher.

MISSED ASSIGNMENTS / EARNED ZERO POLICY

- When a student has an excused absence, it is their responsibility to contact the teacher about missed work, as they are still responsible for the work covered in your absence.
- If a task is given that day, the student must contact the teacher to determine a mutually agreeable time for missed assignments to be handed in for marking. Such issues must be discussed with the teacher on the day of the student's return to classes, or earlier if possible (email).
- If excusably absent on the due date of an assignment, then **the assignment is due the day you return to school.**

The following assignment policy will apply to the class:



- **Assignments submitted on the due date** – Will be marked in as timely a fashion as possible (typically 2-3 weeks, depending on the size/type of assignment). These will be given a rubric, and formative feedback.
- **Assignments submitted within 2 weeks from the due date** – Will be marked as other assignments allow (these are not the priority, and the only timeline that can be assured is prior to the end of the semester). Students will receive no written feedback.
- **Assignments submitted after 2 weeks from due date** – Will be awarded a zero, unless special arrangements are made at the discretion of the teacher. This is known as an assignment "Dead Date."

Please Note: The presiding teacher has no onus to grade late work immediately. The teacher will do everything in their power to mark late work as quickly as possible, but it may not be marked until the conclusion of the course.

- Please arrive to class on time. If you are late for any reason, you will knock on the door and wait outside until it is convenient for your admission into the classroom.
- Repeatedly being late will result in disciplinary action which is specific to the presiding teacher. BCHS policy also applies.

READABILITY:

- Sloppy or illegible work WILL NOT be accepted. If it can't be read, it can't be graded.

MISSED ASSIGNMENTS:

- If no attempt is made to contact the teacher or the work is not completed within the agreed time an "NHI" will be awarded for the assignment.

EXTENSIONS:

Extensions on assignments will only be considered if a student makes arrangement at least one (1) day prior to the due date. An accompanying signature/note from a parent indicating the circumstances of the extension would be welcomed.

DIGITAL SUBMISSIONS:

- Assignments may be submitted electronically only at the discretion of the presiding teacher. If the teacher in question does not permit electronic submissions, an assignment submitted in this manner will not be accepted.
- Teachers are permitted to establish their own practices for electronic submissions.

FLEX BLOCK

These periods of time, which are built into student schedules, offer the valuable opportunity for student ownership of learning. They can be used to get help and to keep current in courses.

Teachers will do their best to notify parents / guardians of a student's missing work, but this may not always be possible, and it is expected that students will take ultimate responsibility for their learning and the completion of their work.

- If a student has an outstanding assignment, it is expected that they will attend Focus Blocks until the assignment is complete.

FOCUS BLOCKS:

Monday, Wednesday – AM (Between Block 1 and Block 2)

Thursday, Thursday – PM (Between Block 3 and Block 4)

- Note that the presiding teacher may assign students to any of these blocks or time at their discretion.
- If a student has a conflict between two or more classes during these times, it is still expected that they will check in with all teachers for whom they have late work.



REWRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

- Some assignments qualify for replacement grades, which means the most recent example of student achievement will replace the previous one.
- If the teacher determines that a rewrite on an assignment is appropriate, the following guidelines apply:
 1. Corrections are not permitted. Assignments must be re-written (i.e. completing a different question or topic) under the guidance of the presiding teacher.
 2. Re-written assignments are due on the date noted by the presiding teacher. Once this date has passed, students will not be permitted to hand in re-writes for the assignment in question.
 3. Re-written assignments must be submitted with:
 - The original, marked assignment;
 - The mark sheet for the original assignment.
 4. Before a major assignment (such as an essay or another composition) is re-written, the student must discuss it with the presiding teacher one-on-one.

If the noted guidelines are not adhered to, the re-written assignment will not be accepted.

CHEATING



Providing or using unauthorized assistance, such as:

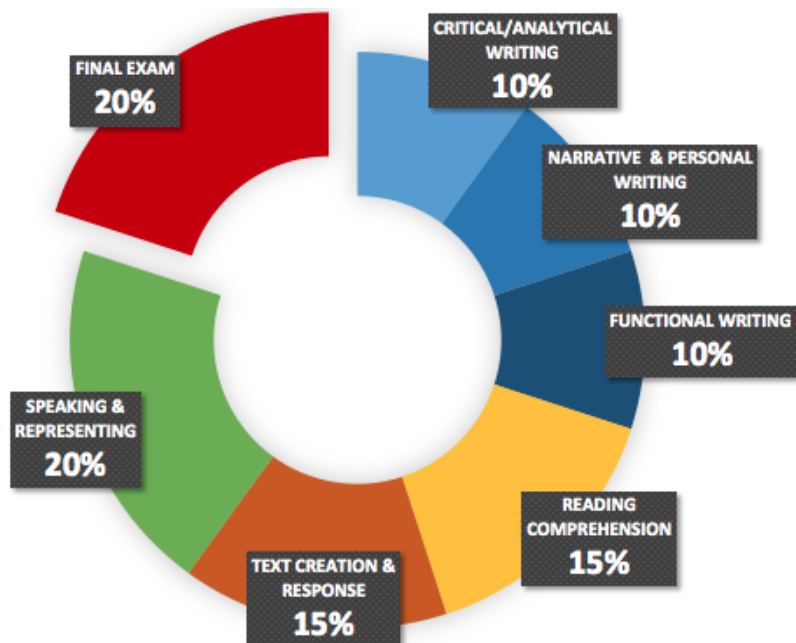
- Copying another's work (including plagiarism)
- Telling others what is on a test
- Presenting another's ideas as your own
- Taking notes/aids into a test situation

ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION

IN CLASS, STUDENTS WILL BE ASSESSED ON THE CRITERIA LISTED BELOW. **REGULAR ATTENDANCE, CLASSROOM PARTICIPATION AND AN ATTITUDE CONDUCTIVE TO LEARNING** ARE NECESSARY FOR OPTIMUM PERFORMANCE AND SUCCESS IN THE ENGLISH CLASSROOM.

FINAL EXAM (PROVINCIAL ACHIEVEMENT TEST)

It should be noted that students must Write their FINAL EXAM during the scheduled times noted. These exams may only be rescheduled in the case of serious & significant illness (supported by documentation from a doctor or another medical professional). Exams cannot be rescheduled for vacations or family, athletic, or vocational commitments.



PAT Part A: Written Response

= 10%

- DATE: From May 6th to 10th, 2018. Time TBD.

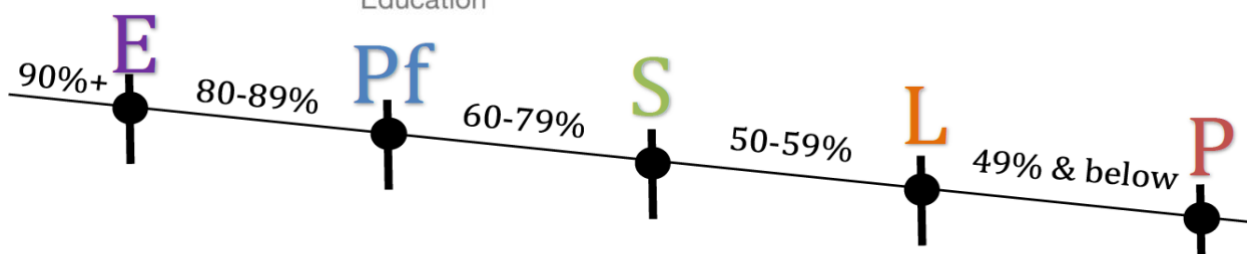
PAT Part B: Reading Comprehension

= 10%

- DATE: From June 10th to 27th, 2018. Time TBD.



Standards



Excellence

Proficient

Satisfactory

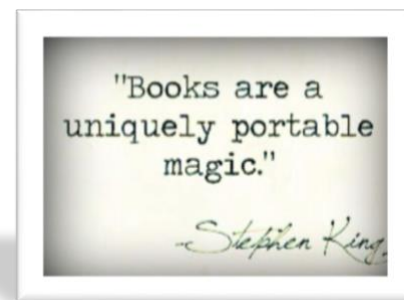
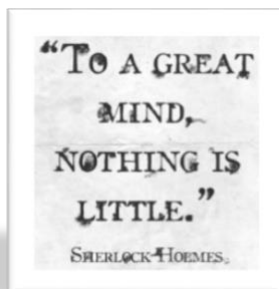
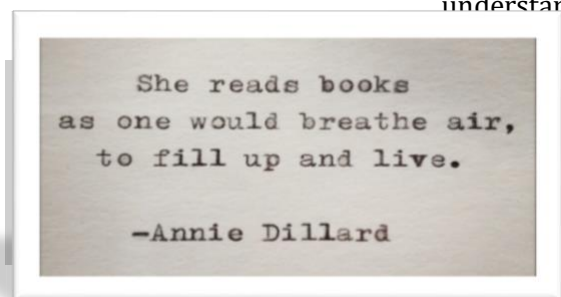
Limited / Poor

Subtle and thorough understanding.

In-depth and well-developed understanding.

Adequate and general understanding.

Limited and insufficient understanding.



COURSE SCHEDULE:

The exact schedule of the course will vary depending on the needs of the student learning group, the constraints of time, and the availability of course materials.

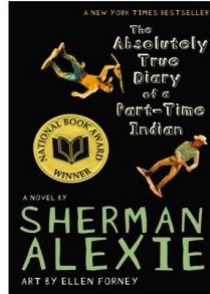
Regardless of the schedule the course follows, the main theme and discussion point for the course will be the concept of **CHARACTER and CHANGE**.

- UNIT 1: Introducing...Me!
- UNIT 2: Look! (Multi-Genre)
- UNIT 3: Dr. Cook's Garden
- UNIT 4: Boy in the Striped Pajamas
- UNIT 5: Edward Scissorhands
- UNIT 6: Media and Persuasion
- UNIT 7: Swallowing Stones
- UNIT 8: Mythology & Hero Quest
- UNIT 9: Look Again
- UNIT 10: Shakespeare (If-time)
- UNIT 0: Independent Novel Study

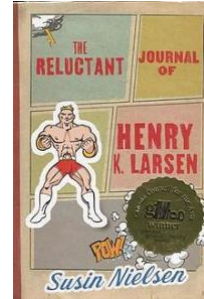
Syllabus of Major Works:

During the course, we will endeavor to cover the following works of literature:

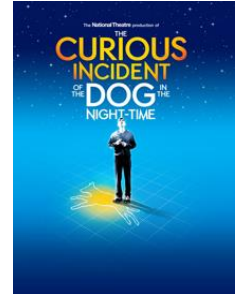
Major Texts:



S. Alexie



S. Nielsen



S. Stevens

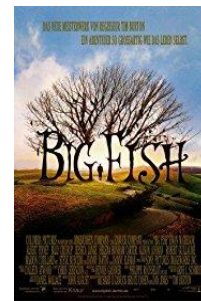
FILM Texts:



H. Ramis



T. Burton



M. Gracey



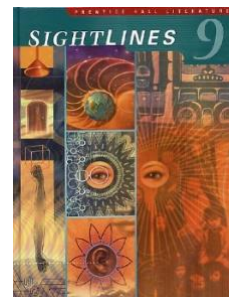
J.J. Abrams



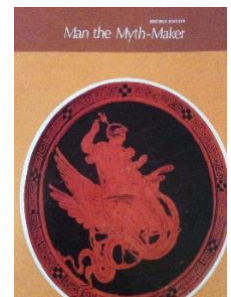
OTHER Texts:



O.S. Card
(INDEPENDENT)
or Alternative from
the list



Various Authors



N. Frye