

**English 9 Honors**  
2011-2012 Syllabus  
Mrs. Schneden



Welcome to *English 9 Honors*, a rigorous and challenging course taught at an advanced level, designed to develop your reading, writing, discussion and critical thinking skills. My primary goal for this course is to create strong readers, writers and thinkers who will have the literacy skills necessary to succeed in high school, college and in their personal and professional lives.

**ATTENDANCE:** Daily attendance is crucial. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to acquire the missing assignments when you return. I will not come to you to remind you that you have work to do. If you do miss a class, please consider asking another student about what happened in class before you ask me. If you know that you will be absent for an extended period, let me know in plenty of time so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

★ NOTHING CAN SUBSTITUTE FOR ATTENDANCE. BE HERE!

**EVALUATION:** It is my understanding that you registered for this course because you enjoy reading and writing and you want to be challenged in a demanding English environment. Your grade will be based upon the following:

- ☺ Class Participation in class and online at our Ning: <http://ghse9h.ning.com/>
- ☺ Reading: Annotation, Reader Response, Socratic Seminars, and 30 books for Independent Reading
- ☺ Writing: Timed writings and multi-draft papers. You will write an average of two out-of-class/multi-draft papers per semester. You will also regularly reflect in writing.
- ☺ Quizzes & Tests
- ☺ Extra Credit (See posted *English Challenge Opportunities* handout)

**HOMEWORK:** You are expected to complete all work on time and to the best of your ability. You can expect to have something to work on outside of class every night (weekends and holidays included). Much of this will be reading/annotating various types of texts and writing responses. If you are not prepared for class it will be painfully evident, so chose to stay up to date on your work.

**LATE WORK:** First semester if something due is turned in after the due date, your grade will be lowered one letter grade for each day it is late. Second semester any assignments turned in after the due date will earn a maximum of 50% of the total points possible. Your health, mental and physical, always takes priority. Talk with me if you can't meet a deadline—before the assignment is due. If you wish to discuss an individual grade we can meet at a mutually agreed upon time, not during class.

“UNTIL I FEARED I WOULD LOSE IT, I NEVER LOVED TO READ. ONE DOES NOT LOVE BREATHING” (14). JEAN LOUISE “SCOUT” FINCH —TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD



**MATERIALS:** You need the following supplies with you **every** day:

- ★ One 2” 3-ring binder. This binder stays in the classroom and is to be used exclusively for English 9 Honors coursework.
- ★ Tab dividers (8 tabs at least)
- ★ Loose-leaf paper; NO SPIRAL!
- ★ A pencil, pen & highlighter
- ★ Student Planner/Organizer
- ★ “R&R” book
- ★ A college dictionary and thesaurus available for use at home
- ★ Google Mail account. See *Setting Up a Gmail Account* handout @ <http://www.gcsdblogs.org/Schneden>

**THE BELL:** When the bell BEGINS to ring you are to be seated in your assigned seat or you will need to sign the tardy roster. At the end of the period, I dismiss you; the bell does not.

**GUM/CANDY:** I don’t want to see, hear, or smell it. If I do you will be asked to share it or dispose of it.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

I believe in openly communicating with all students, parents, and guardians, so please feel free to contact me about the curriculum or any other class-related matter.

Email: [mschneden@dist228.org](mailto:mschneden@dist228.org)

Web page: <http://www.gcsdblogs.org/Schneden/> Phone: 309-945-0399

I reserve the right to change class policies should it prove necessary to meet the needs of the students. Students, parents, and guardians will be notified of any changes. I am confident that if we work together as a team, every student can succeed.

After reading through this syllabus, please complete the Disclosure Document, date it, sign it, have a parent/guardian sign it, and return just that page to me by **Friday, Aug 19<sup>th</sup> for 5 points completion credit.**

Thank you,

Mrs. Schneden

**Disclosure Acknowledgement for English 9 Honors**

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' / Guardians' full names: \_\_\_\_\_ Work/Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Best time and place to call (please specify if this is work, home, or cell number):

\_\_\_\_\_

Email addresses \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Special concerns

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\_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the syllabus for **English 9 Honors**.

Student's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's or Guardian's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

