

Mr. Ocken  
English 9-10  
Syllabus

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Class description (STARS: <http://ped.state.nm.us/stars/index.html>)

(9) Course builds upon the students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and mechanics of writing, and usually includes the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Usually, the various genres of literature are introduced and defined, with writing exercises often linked to reading selections.

(10) Course offers a balanced focus on composition and literature. Typically, students learn about the alternate aims and audiences of written compositions by writing persuasive, critical, and creative multi paragraph thematic essays and compositions. The study of literature encompasses various genres as students improve their reading rate and comprehension and develop the skills to determine authors' intent and theme and to recognize the techniques employed by the author to achieve the goal.

Common Core Standards: <http://www.corestandards.org>

**Course Overview:**

Literature: We will read, analyze, and discuss world myths, plays, novels, short stories and poetry.

Composition: We will do a variety of writing during each quarter. Students will be guided through the writing process with particular emphasis on analysis and textual support of ideas. While not always assigned, multiple rough drafts are strongly recommended.

Grammar: Much of our grammar study will be done through mini-units, daily oral language, and composition revision. Through these activities, we will cover the 9th grade course of study and graduation exam objectives.

Vocabulary: We will study Greek and Latin roots, prefixes and suffixes, and see how these languages have impacted our own and how these roots lead to the identification of many new vocabulary words.

**Course Objectives:**

- To develop note-taking, listening, organizational, and other necessary skills.
- To sharpen grammar, punctuation, and usage skills.

- To develop confidence as a reader and a writer.
- To create polished written works through prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing.
- To increase understanding and enjoyment of literature.
- To prepare for future courses and assessments.

Text: Class will use a variety of texts, including textbooks, newspaper articles, novels and short stories.

**Course Rules:** All the rules are designed to help you take full advantage of your education as well as being fully prepared for upper level courses. They will be strictly enforced.

- Be respectful of others.
- Bring all materials to class.
- Participate in the learning process.
- Maintain academic integrity.
- Be on time to class.

Grading:

Final grades will be based on the following weights:

30% Classroom Assignments

30% Assessments, including the final

20% Homework

20% Classroom participation, including attendance

Late will be accepted, but will lose ten percent each day it is late.

**Please bring your agenda daily.**

**No cell phones.**