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**General English – Grade 9**  
Course Syllabus 2021-22  
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### **Course Description**

General English 9 builds upon students' reading levels, interests, and learning styles by creating opportunities for students to see models of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will read a variety of texts, participate in discussions, complete a variety of formative and summative assessments, and compose original texts in a variety of modes. Overall, this course will help prepare ninth graders for college-level reading and writing as well as for future careers.

### **Goals for Student Learning**

The English I curriculum provides students with the opportunity to do the following:

- Develop habits of mind that promote deeper reading comprehension
- Practice critical thinking and analysis skills
- Compose adequate responses to literature and expository texts

According to the Maryland College and Career Readiness Standards, as students advance through grade levels, they should exhibit the following capacities of literate individuals:

- *They demonstrate independence.*
- *They build strong content knowledge.*
- *They respond to varying demands of audience, task, purpose, and discipline.*
- *They comprehend as well as critique.*
- *They value evidence.*
- *They use technology and digital media strategically and capably.*
- *They come to understand other perspectives and cultures*

### **Textbook and Materials**

- The *Collections* 9<sup>th</sup> grade anthology
- Various novels as assigned

### **Course Outline**

English 9 has four units:

- Unit I: Finding Common Ground
- Unit 2: The Struggle for Freedom
- Unit 3: The Bonds Between Us
- Unit 4: A Matter of Life or Death

### **Classroom Rules and Procedures**

- 1) Be kind.
- 2) Work hard.

## HCPS Grading Policy

<b>Examples of Product, Process, and Practice</b>		
<b>PRODUCT (50%)</b> <i>Culminating Demonstration of Knowledge</i>	<b>PROCESS (30%)</b> <i>Addressing Specific Short-Term Learning Outcomes</i>	<b>PRACTICE (20%)</b> <i>Building Attitudes, Habits, and Skills</i>
Does it measure how well students achieved specific learning goals, standards, and/or competencies?	Does it provide feedback to students regarding growth towards the attainment of specific learning goals, standards and competencies?	Does it allow students to practice skills and/or reinforce content learning?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primarily completed in presence of teacher</li> <li>Rubric aligned to standards</li> <li>Accuracy graded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primarily completed in presence of teacher</li> <li>Rubric aligned to standards</li> <li>Accuracy graded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graded for completion and participation</li> </ul>

**\*\*Extra credit will not be given for non-academic purposes\*\***

### Absent Work Policy

All assignments should be submitted on time. Students will be given the number of class periods equal to the number of lawful class periods absent to turn in completed make up assignments without penalty.

### Late Work Policy

All assignments should be submitted on time in order to earn full credit. Any assignment, (*product, process, or practice*) will be allowed to be turned in late for one letter grade deduction from the grade a student earns on the assignment. In order to earn credit for late assignments, students must submit assignments by the end of the day on Wednesday (except for the last week of the quarter) following the designated HAC update. Students are only able to submit assignments that have an established due date within the grading window before the designated HAC update. Assignment that are turned in for late credit will be identified by a footnote in HAC to include a statement about the deduction of a letter grade due to the lateness of the assignment.

Grading Window	Designated HAC Update	Late Work Due Date
September 8- September 24	September 24	September 29
September 27- October 13	October 13	October 20
October 14- October 29	October 29	November 5 (Friday)
November 8- November 19	November 19	November 24
November 22- December 10	December 10	December 15
December 13- January 13	January 13	January 21 (Friday)
January 24- February 11	February 11	February 16
February 14- February 25	February 25	March 2

February 28- March 11	March 11	March 16
March 14- March 25	March 25	March 31 (Thursday)
April 1- April 22	April 22	April 27
April 25- May 6	May 6	May 11
May 11- May 20	May 20	May 25

**Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is taking responsibility for the quality and completion of one's own work. Academic dishonesty is taking someone else's work and claiming it as one's own. Students at Bel Air High School are responsible for knowing what is considered to be Academic Dishonesty and the subsequent consequences. More information can be found in the BAHS Student Planner.

**Words of Encouragement**

Please show up to class with an open mind, a kind attitude toward others, and a willingness to work hard. *Trust* that I have your best interests at heart and that I will do everything possible to make sure that you are successful this year. If you ever have suggestions on how we can make improvements to the class, you can email me. You are in for a *fantastic* year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gault