Grade 9 Academic English

**Mr. Bignell –** [**www.mrbignell.weebly.com**](http://www.mrbignell.weebly.com) **– Chris\_Bignell@wrdsb.on.ca**

# Course Description:

This course is designed to develop the oral communication, reading, writing, and media literacy skills that students need for success in their secondary school academic programs and in their daily lives. Students will analyse literary texts from contemporary and historical periods, interpret informational and graphic texts, and create oral, written, and media texts in a variety of forms. An important focus will be on the use of strategies that contribute to effective communication. The course is intended to prepare students for the Grade 10 academic English course, which leads to university or college preparation courses in Grades 11 and 12.

# Identifying Information: Texts:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Title:** | Grade 9 Academic English |  | *Elements of English 9*  *Language and Writing 9*  *The Body of Christopher Creed*  *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*  Additional Selections: Myths, Short Stories, Poetry | $43  $34  $11  $21 |
| **Grade:** | 9 |  |
| **Course Type:** | Academic |  |
| **Course Hours:** | 110 Hours |  |
| **Course Code:** | ENG 1DI |  |
| **Credit Value:** | 1 |  |
| **Ministry Document:** | The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9 and 10, Revised |  | Course texts must be returned by the end of the semester. Students are responsible for maintaining the condition of the texts assigned to them. Replacement charges apply for books not returned, or books returned in unusable condition. | |

# Course Units:

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| **Unit #** | **Description** | **Weight** | |
| **1** | **Short Narratives**   * Students will analyze a series of short narratives to develop their understanding of narratives, and literary devices. Students will also use these works to write persuasive arguments. | 15% | 70% |
| **2** | **Novel Study**   * Students will read *The Body of Christopher Creed* and use it as the basis for research, analysis, and discussion of literary conventions and social issues. | 25% |
| **3** | **Poetry**   * Students will deconstruct a series of poems to develop their understanding of the use of poetic devices and forms of poetry, and write their own. | 5% |
| **4** | **Shakespeare**   * Students will read *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, and develop an understanding of theatre conventions, the comedic genre, and a historical understanding of Shakespeare. | 25% |
| **5** | **Summative Project\Activity\Exam (30%)**   * A final project or activity to demonstrate the students’ understanding of the course content. | Summative Project 20%  Final Exam 10% | 30% |

# Essential Course Components:

To be successful in this course you **must** be able to demonstrate **all** of the following skills:

An English student who demonstrates proficiency in **oral communication** will be able to…

1. **Listen to understand** and **speak** using a variety of strategies for a specific audience.

An English student who demonstrates proficiency in **reading and literature** will be able to…

1. **Read fluently for meaning** using a variety of comprehension strategies to understand a variety of texts and text features, and use this understanding to explain how these communicate meaning.

An English student who demonstrates proficiency in **writing** will be able to…

1. **Develop and organize** written work using a variety of prewriting strategies, with focus on constructing and researching supporting details.
2. **Employ form and style** in written work to satisfy various audiences and purposes through all stages of revision.
3. Demonstrate **knowledge of conventions** in areas of proofreading, spelling, punctuation, vocabulary, word choice, and visual communication.

An English student who demonstrates proficiency in **media studies** will be able to…

1. **Understand and explain** the **message** of a variety of media texts, and how **forms** of media employ different conventions to suit a particular audience, message, and purpose.
2. **Create** media texts using conventions and techniques for different purpose(s), and audiences.

An English student who demonstrates proficiency in **metacognition** will be able to…

1. **Reflect** on strengths and weaknesses with the purpose of improving him/herself as communicator, reader, writer, and interpreter and producer of media texts.

# Procedures:

**Late and Missing Assignments:** It is important for students to develop good personal management skills (such as time management and planning). These skills will be reflected in the **learning skills** area of the report card. All of the above listed skills/assignments in the essential course components must be submitted and/or demonstrated in order to earn this credit.

**Attendance:** Attendance in classes is an important part of learning, and absences should be avoided. When a student is absent, a parent/guardian must call the school’s attendance line on the date of absence, or provide a note explaining the absence for the student to submit the following day. Students are responsible for what they missed during their absence.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** It is important for students to do their own best work. Most assignments for this class are done within the classroom and observed by the teacher, and this helps to minimize the chances of cheating and plagiarism. In the event that cheating or plagiarism occurs, the following consequences may be implemented, in consultation with administration, depending on the situation:

1. The student may be required to redo all or part of the assignment or assessment.
2. The student may be required to complete an alternate assignment or assessment.
3. The student’s work may be treated as a missed assignment.

There may also be other consequences that are determined to be appropriate (detention, suspension, etc.) as per the school’s progressive discipline process. Parents/guardians will be informed about the infraction and the consequences. Please refer to your student handbook for more details on these policies and other academic procedures.

# Signatures:

Please sign below indicating you have read and understand the requirements for successful completion of this course.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| Student |  | Parent/Guardian |

|  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |
| Date |  | Date |