

KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS

Hardin Valley Academy



Mrs. Pace English I CP

The topics below cover the majority of material that will be addressed in English 9CP this semester. There will most likely be other topics that come up along the way. However, for the most part this is what each student can expect to work on through the course of English I CP.

Literature/Non-fiction:

Greek Mythology & *The Odyssey* by Homer
The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
Divergent by Veronica Roth
**All American Boys* by Jason Reynolds
(pending county approval)
Short stories
Poetry
Various non-fiction pieces including: famous speeches, articles, and essays

Writing/Grammar:

MLA Format
Varying sentence structure
Sentence editing
Synthesis Paper (X2)
A review of the Parts of Speech
Direct and Indirect Objects
Subject/Verb Agreement
Commas
Appositive Phrases
Parallel Structure
Digital Literacy - real world applications, blogs

Vocabulary: Tier II academic vocabulary and vocabulary from context per unit

****9CP Summer Reading** - These book should have been read over the summer. This information has been posted on the HVA website since May. Our guidance counselor, Mrs. Beckler, visited each middle school in the Spring of 2014 and informed students of these required reads as well. **Students will be tested on these books Friday, September 1.**

Work Ethic - English 9CP will force students to become more accustomed to working independently, especially where reading is concerned. Students and parents should expect a **minimum** of 20 minutes worth of English homework every night, whether it be reading or working on written assignments.

Vocabulary Quizzes – Throughout English units, students will have regular vocabulary quizzes; these will focus on the texts we are reading at the time. These vocabulary quizzes range from 20 word quizzes to 10 word quizzes.

****MATERIALS NEEDED (DAILY)**

- 1 three ring binder (at least 2 inches)
- College-ruled notebook paper
- 4 dividers for the sections in your three ring binder (The tabs should be labelled: Writing/Grammar, Literature/Non-fiction, Vocabulary, and Warm-ups)

Summer Reads

Required Summer Read - *Flying Couch: A Graphic Memoir* by Amy Kurzweil

One of the following - *Unbroken (The Young Adult Adaptation): An Olympian's Journey from Airman to Castaway to Captive* by Laura Hillenbrand

Between Shades of Gray by Ruta Sepetys

or *Code Name Verity* by Elizabeth Wein
(Summer Read)

- Blue or black pens and No.2 pencils (colored pens, i.e. pink, purple, green) are not to be used on anything that will be turned in to me. You will also need 1 red pen (for editing and grading purposes).
- Student Agenda or student planner - calendar
- SSR book (SSR = sustained silent reading)
- 1 flash drive/jump drive is highly recommended; and the ability to easily access Google Drive or Dropbox while at school
- 2 packs of Post-it notes (light colored)
- Highlighters (2)

All classroom materials should be in class at the latest by **Monday, August 14**. If for some reason there are extenuating circumstances which hinder the procurement of classroom supplies, individual students or parents need to contact the teacher ASAP.

Teacher Website - I keep an active and up to date teacher website. The address for this website is <https://mrsjenniferpace.educatorpages.com/> This is a unique way for students and parents to stay on top of daily work, homework, and future assignments. I expect ALL of my students to check this site daily. Parents are encouraged to do so as well. All daily objectives are listed on my website as well as the homework assignment(s) for each night. If a student is absent, he or she is expected to check this website before returning to school, so that he or she will be up to date with what the class covered during the duration of the absence. **BOOKMARK THIS WEBSITE** on a home computer.

Warm-ups – Every day will start with students getting out their agenda books and writing down that night's homework. This will be immediately followed by daily warm-ups. The warm-ups will be on the SmartBoard; students will work on sentence editing, unit related questions, and/or short writing assignments. The first thing students need to do upon entering the classroom is to get out their calendar/agenda, write down the day's homework and then immediately begin that day's Warm-up. The Warm-ups will serve as review for the end of course exam in December.

Make-up Work - Work can be made up when a student has been absent; however, it is up to the student to request the make-up work immediately upon returning to school. Failure to request make-up work within three (3) days of returning to school may result in the lost opportunity for credit for the missed work. It is understood that all requested work must be completed and turned in within 3 days of receiving the assignment OR by teacher arrangement. In cases of prolonged illness, teachers will set a reasonable time limit for completion of the work. Failure to request make-up work within three (3) days of returning to school may result in the lost opportunity for credit for the missed work. If students are absent for at least three (3) days, parents may call the guidance secretary to request make-up work. The guidance office and teachers must have 24 hours to gather necessary assignments. All assessments must be made up at the convenience of the instructor before or after school.

Bathroom Policy - There is one bathroom pass located on the cart beside the door. This pass must be taken with a student in order for that student to leave the room for any reason. Students must sign out and sign in when they have permission to leave the classroom. Students will **ONLY** be allowed to go to the restroom during emergencies. No more than three trips per student, after this a student's bathroom privileges will be revoked. A new HVA policy mandates that students not leave class during the first 20 minutes and during the last 20 minutes of class. I will strictly adhere to this policy.

Tardies - HVA has a new and stricter Tardy Policy this year. Every time a student is tardy to class he or she will receive a lunch detention. After six lunch detentions, a student will be required to serve after school detention with an administrator; this is non-negotiable. Tardies are something to avoid at all cost!

Seating Arrangements - Students will be assigned seats at the beginning of school. At first we will start off alphabetically, after a few weeks I may decide to rearrange some or all of the students. I usually switch the seating assignments around at least twice throughout a semester. Every student is to sit in his or her assigned seat unless otherwise instructed. **When the bell rings, students are to be in their seats!** There is to be no switching of seats without my permission.

Classroom Environment – The classroom is a place for learning. There will be quiet times of independent work; there will be times of small group discussion, and times of whole class discussions. All students are expected to participate and to be respectful of the teacher and peers. Rudeness and insubordination will not be tolerated. Hard work will be rewarded, while inappropriateness will be addressed individually and promptly.

****Cell Phone Policy** – HVA allows students to use their cell phones in the hallways in between classes, before and after school, and during lunch. Once students come in to my classroom cell phones are to be **TURNED OFF** and put in the **CELL JAIL**. Cell phones will remain in the **CELL JAIL** throughout class.

Student Expectations/Behavior:

- Students are expected to be respectful to themselves and others. This includes being honest (no cheating, plagiarism, copying other students' work, etc.).
- Students are expected to come to class prepared and ready to work (homework, textbook, binder, pencil, paper, etc.). **This includes being in your seat when the bell rings.
- Students are expected to be in class on time and remain in your seat until dismissed by the teacher.
- Do not pack up while the instructor is talking. DO NOT line up or stand by the door. It is rude and will delay the class dismissal.
- Students will not be permitted to have food in class. Students can have a drink, but it must have a lid.
- All school rules will be enforced.

Grades:

Homework/Daily Assignments/SSR	15%
Quizzes	30%
Tests/Major Writing Assignments	40%
EOC (End of Course Exam)	15%

Extra Credit - I usually offer at least one extra credit assignment during each nine week period, which means in a semester there are at least two extra credit opportunities. If a student chooses not to do the extra credit that is offered, another extra credit opportunity might not be given. All extra credit is intended to be helpful to any student who chooses to do the assignment. If a student is unable to do an extra credit assignment because of a date conflict, etc. please see me ASAP to discuss the possibility of another option. However, please keep in mind that another option may simply not be possible.

Independent Reads – Students will be given SSR (sustained silent reading) time each day. This reading time immediately follows their completion of the warm-up. Students **MUST** have a novel to read in class every day. Students can read the class novel or a book of choice during this time. Sporadic grades are given for simply reading quietly during SSR. If and when there is down time in class, students are expected to be reading!

Videos/Clips/Documentaries - When time allows I like to show videos that relate to the novels, plays, current events, and short stories that we read/discuss in class. Sometimes things take longer to cover than others and a film is just not possible within the allotted time frame; but when possible, I feel actually seeing a piece of literature turned into a film version is very beneficial for students. I am including links to reviews of the films from The Internet Movie Database when available. The films and/or clips that might be shown during this semester include:

Various clips for enrichment/logical fallacies/etc.
The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet (1968 – PG)
To Kill a Mockingbird (1962 – Not Rated)
The Odyssey (1997 – Rated PG-13)
Clash of the Gods: Hades, Zeus, and Odysseus
Judge Horton and the Scottsboro Boys (1976 TV)
O, Brother Where Art Thou
Shakespeare in Love and in the Classroom
(1999 – TV Documentary)
2081 (a.k.a – “Harrison Bergeron”)
Survivors of the Holocaust
Animal Farm (Hallmark)
Emma

YouTube, TeacherTube, American Rhetoric
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0063518/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0056592/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0118414/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1484577/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0074723/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0190590/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1013711/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1282015/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0117792/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0204824/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0116191/>

Life is Beautiful
Hercules (Disney)
The Lightning Thief
The Book Thief
Gnomeo and Juliet
Divergent
America's Book of Secrets (History Channel)
Insurgent
Great Expectations (TV mini-series 2011)
Great Expectations (TV mini-series 1989)
Blackfish (documentary)
The Help
Hey Boo (documentary)
Romeo + Juliet (1996 Rated PG-13)
Leap Year (2010 - Rated PG)
Clash of the Titans (2010 – Rated PG-13)
The Time Machine (2002 – Rated PG-13)
Mythbusters (TV series)
West Side Story (1962 – Not Rated)
Appropriate clips from *12 Years a Slave*
Waiting for Superman
God Grew Tired of Us: The Story of Lost Boys of Sudan
Race to Nowhere

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0118799/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0119282/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0814255/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0816442/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0377981/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1840309/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt2198333/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt2908446/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1949720/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0096601/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt2545118/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1454029/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1638979/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0117509/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1216492/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0800320/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0268695/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0383126/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0055614/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt2024544/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1566648/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0301555/>
<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1437364/>

*The novels and films listed on this syllabus will be taught based on time and availability. All content has been thoughtfully and carefully chosen based on age-appropriateness, academic rigor, and TNReady standards. If there is anything that a parent/guardian disagrees with in the content, there are alternative assignments available if made within the first two weeks of the semester upon written request.

****Knox County Board of Education Policy: Religion in the Curriculum**

The Board affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion—and not of a religion be conducted in a factual, objective and respectful manner in accordance with the following:

1. Music, art, literature, or drama with a religious theme or basis are permitted as part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented objectively;
2. The emphasis on religious themes in the arts, literature and history shall be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of these areas. Such studies shall never foster any particular religious tenets or demean any religious beliefs; and
3. Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated. For example, students are free to express religious belief or non-belief in compositions, art forms, music, speech and debate

Inclement Weather – If we should miss class due to unpredictable, bad weather, all assignments are still due on their originally assigned dates. If we are scheduled to have a test, we will have a test! Please follow me [@MrsJenniferPace](https://twitter.com/MrsJenniferPace) on Twitter; when last minute tweaks to the schedule have to be made, I will post information here first.

**I update my teacher website every night/day to keep you and your child informed. Please, please make use of this very helpful tool. Again, my web page is

<https://mrsjenniferpace.educatorpages.com/>

Contact Information - I can be contacted via e-mail at jennifer.pace@knoxschools.org. Please feel free to contact me via e-mail or at school by calling (865)690-9690. I have 3rd block plan.

I look forward to our semester together. I know every student will come out of my class with a vast knowledge of World Literature, a firmer understanding of grammar, and a more developed ability to clearly communicate his or her thoughts through improved writing skills. I know if we work together we will all feel a great sense of accomplishment by the end of our time together. I'm excited about our upcoming adventure.

Parents, please detach this last page and complete the following information. You need only send back this portion of the syllabus.

Parent Name(s): _____

Phone numbers: cell - _____ work- _____

Parent e-mail address: _____

As the **parent/guardian**, are there any specifics you feel I should know concerning your child? If so please elaborate below:

How does your child learn best? (Hands on, visual, auditory, combination, etc.)

What type of work ethic is typical of your child?

****Please note that there is a \$10.00 course fee for all English classes. This fee is to help cover the cost of instructional materials and technology needs. Students may pay in cash (please bring exact change) or by check. Checks should be made to HVA. On the memo line please write the student's first and last name and ENGLISH FEE. Please send this money in with the signed syllabus. Fees can now be paid online. Go to HVA's website <https://www.knoxschools.org/hardinvalley>; scroll down to Quick Links on the left and then select Online Payments.**

Parent/Guardian – Please sign this and return to me. This will signify that you have read and agree with the proposed plan, guidelines, and expectations. I try to foster clear lines of communication with all of my students and their parents. This signed piece of paper will serve as the first homework grade in this class. It is due by **Friday, August 11.**

X _____
Parent/Guardian Signature

X _____
Student Signature

X _____
Teacher Signature