

# Elphinstone Secondary School

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V0N 1V0

**English 9**

Room 113 Semester 2, 2017 Ms. Legault ([alegault@sd46.bc.ca](mailto:alegault@sd46.bc.ca))

Classroom website: <http://www.mslegault.weebly.com> Gmail: [ashley.legault14@gmail.com](mailto:ashley.legault14@gmail.com)

This course is an extension of the skills you learned in English 8. In English 9, you will take these skills one step further. The course has three main components: reading and viewing, speaking and listening, and writing and representing. Within that there will be a focus on composition, creative writing, literary studies, new media, and spoken language. We will try to hear stories from a variety of voices and perspectives. We will pick up where Mrs. Clarke left off.

The units for this course may include:

* Grammar, spelling, editing skills
* Lit Circles
* Drama/Shakespeare (*A Midsummer Night’s Dream*)
* Short Stories
* Poetry
* Creative Writing

Required Materials

* Three ring binder and dividers
* Lined paper
* Pens (blue/black, and red)
* Pencils
* Highlighters
* Silent reading novel
* Flashdrive/Gmail account for Google Docs

Dear Parents/Guardians,

If you have any information regarding your student that you feel it is important for me to know to help your student’s success, please inform me at your earliest convenience. I want all of my students to succeed and parental support is an important element of that. If you have any questions, comments or concerns about your child’s learning in this course, please do not hesitate to contact me either by phone or email. However, email will be the most efficient method of communication.

Please take the time to go through this course outline with your student so you are both clear on my expectations and what we will be covering in this course.

Ms. Ashley Legault

English 9, English 11

[alegault@sd46.bc.ca](mailto:alegault@sd46.bc.ca)

<http://www.mslegault.weebly.com>

**Classroom Expectations**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Attendance** **Lateness:**My expectation is that you will come to class on time.  Being on time is a show of respect, and since school is your place of work you need to show respect to the people you interact with, aka myself and your classmates.  If you are late please just enter the classroom quietly and without disrupting the lesson or your peers.  If you are late more than three times in a row or chronically late (late more often than you are on time), we will be having a conversation about it. **Absences:**If you are aware in advance that you're going to miss class, please come speak to me about any homework that you are going to miss.  If you are sick, please come speak to me about what you missed.  This will show accountability and responsibility.  However, I will upload any notes we have taken in class to this website so you can make up the notes on your own time, but it is your responsibility to come speak to me if you are going to be away or have been.  I will not chase you.  Ultimately, the best learning experience will come from being in class, so it is important that you attend class as much as possible.  **Assignments** **Homework:**I will try my best not to give homework and  to ensure you have adequate time to complete your assignments.  Any homework assigned will be due to an inability to complete it during class time.  I expect all homework to be turned in on the given deadline. **Lateness:**All assignments will be given a deadline.  I expect assignments to be in by that deadline unless an extension has been requested.  If an assignment is not handed in by a week after the due date, I will take off late marks.  If you need an extension on an assignment, please send me an email.  I would much rather extend the deadline for you, then for you to send me work that is not your best.  If you know that you aren't going to be able to complete your work in time, please take acknowledge that and email me for an extension. **Plagiarism:**Plagiarism is absolutely, 100% unacceptable.  You will receive a zero for all work I find to be plagiarized, but if it is a first time situation I may offer you an opportunity to re-write.   That is not a guarantee though, so don't even risk it. **Swearing:**Swearing is prohibited in assignments.   **Quizzes/Tests** **Quizzes:** I will try to keep all of my quizzes to one page double sided with no more than twenty marks total.  **Tests:**I will always try to keep tests within a length that they could feasibly be completed within class time.  If they cannot be, I will try to offer you a space where you can come to finish it. **Plagiarism:**Copying from a classmates test or bringing in an unauthorized cheat sheet will result in a zero on your test/quiz. | **Classroom Behaviour** **Talking:**If I am talking, than you should not be talking.  If your classmate is talking, than you should not be talking.  If you are talking, than no one else should be talking.  **Eating and Drinking:**You may eat in class as long as you bring your food to class with you.  I will not let you leave the class to go get a snack.  Don't bring anything in that is particularly noisy (like a crinkly bag of chips) or particularly smelly (something with garlic or tuna) that will bring us into your meal experience.  You are not allowed to bring excessively sugary snacks into my classroom.  There will be no bags of candy.  Drinks like water, juice, coffee or tea are fine to bring into class but you are not allowed to bring slushies, energy drinks, or large bottles of pop to my class.  If I see them, I will take them and they will sit at the front of the room until class is done or if I am in a particularly bad mood then I may throw it out.  I expect you to clean up anything you bring into my classroom.  Any garbage or containers you brought into my classroom, you must take out with you.  I am not here to clean up after you and if I have to, I will ban food and drinks other than water from my classroom. **Swearing:**Swearing is prohibited in my classroom.  I will call you on any language I hear.  Please don't make a habit of it. **Cell phones:**You can bring your cell phone to class but I don't want to see it out unless I have asked you to look something up or to use it.  Please save your snapchatting and texting and instagramming etc. for the time outside of class.   English class is not a time for games or social media on your phone or iPod. If you are working quietly you may listen to music.  However, during lectures and discussions I do not want to see any cellphones or iPods out.  If I see you using your phone I will take it until the end of the class.  If it becomes an issue we will have to re-evaluate the issue and you may not get the phone to the end of day or it will be turned in to Mr. Murphy and Mr. Brisebois.  There should be no phones out during a test or a quiz. **Devices:** If you want to bring your laptop, tablet or iPad to class to take notes that is fine.  However, you must keep on task.  This means no Facebook or random web browsing. **Respect:** To cut a long story short, most of these expectations come down to respect.  You must always treat your classmates with respect and hopefully they will return that respect to you.  Additionally, if you treat me with respect I will treat you with respect.  We want our class to be a safe place where people are not afraid to share their thoughts, ideas, feelings or work.  Please be supportive of your classmates rather than derisive or cutting.  Rude behaviour or comments will not be tolerated. |

English Department Protocols

The Elphinstone English Department works as a team and has course guidelines regarding assessment and exams that all classes follow.

ASSESSMENT

**Informal and summative assessments** are made on a continual basis.

•Informal assessment includes smaller and practice assignments. This typically involves daily class activities such as grammar, vocabulary, and literary term exercises; pre-writing, rough draft, and editing assignments; comprehension and discussion questions; response journals and writing; and small quizzes.

•Summative assessment evaluates mastery of skills. This typically involves larger or cumulative assignments such as essays and narratives, unit tests, oral presentations, research projects, etc.

**The English Department uses cumulative marking**. This means that marks are kept in a running tally, not divided by terms. Mid-year report card marks are a “snapshot” of student progress at that time, hence late work handed in after the report card doesn’t change a previous report card mark, but will be reflected on the subsequent report card.

**All students will write cross-grade final exams.** “Cross-grade” means that all classes in a particular grade write the same exam. English 10, English 12, and Communications 12 write provincial exams.

The following chart outlines the mark breakdown for each grade level.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Grade | Informal (% of term grade) | Summative (% of term grade) | Term Marks (% of overall grade) | Final Exam (% of overall grade) |
| 8 | 40 | 60 | 80 | 20 |
| 9 | 30 | 70 | 80 | 20 |
| 10 | 20 | 80 | 80 | 20\* |
| 11 | 10 | 90 | 70 | 30 |
| 12 | 10 | 90 | 60 | 40\* |

\*The Ministry of Education sets these percentages.

**“The Fine Print”**

**Assessment and Assignments:**

Assessment of student work is to provide students, teachers, and parents with ongoing information of the progress of the student in meeting the required Learning Outcomes as prescribed in the English Languages Arts Curriculum. As English is an ongoing skills development course as opposed to a content based course, assignment completion in a timely fashion is necessary for ongoing assessment to be valid and informative. It is expected that students will do outside of classroom preparation for this course. This may include, but is not limited to, reading, editing written work, and research.

Please be aware of the following guidelines:

• For reporting purposes, assignment cut off dates must be set. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure these deadlines are met.

• As work submitted after the cut off date is no longer a valid assessment of student progress, late assignments will be accepted only at the discretion of the teacher.

• Work submitted after mark cut offs, **if accepted**, may be evaluated separately, using an alternate evaluation rubric, and may be used as a part of the summative assessment at the conclusion of the course.

• Students submitting assignments after mark cutoffs must be prepared to provide evidence to support authenticity of original work (first drafts, edited copies, outlines, research notes, evidence of readings...).

• **As learning is based on classroom teaching and discussions, regular attendance is essential for student progress and success. Extended or frequent absences may result in a lower grade.**

1. An **"I"** or **Incomplete** may be assigned to the student's report for a term if not enough work has been submitted to allow for a fair evaluation of student progress.

Please sign and date below and have your student return the signed slip to me.

Student Signature

Student Name (please print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

Preferred contact phone number

Parent/Guardian email address