**Language Arts 9—Course Outline**

Browerville High School—Mrs. Stephanie Eckel

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Office hours: 11:10-12:00 or by appointment

**COURSE DESCRIPTION—**

In this course students will continue to improve their writing through the use of spelling & writing assignments. William Shakespeare and his play Romeo & Juliet will be read aloud and discussed. Persuasive techniques will be studied and identified through advertisements. Mythology and its impact on literature today will be identified through close reading and studying of the 12 key gods/goddess of mythology. Additional reading comprehension will be gained though assigned Read Theories and the novel Of Mice and Men. Public Speaking skills will be utilized through a demonstration speech.

**CLASS OBJECTIVES**—

* To become more proficient readers, writers and speakers.
* To familiarize ourselves with well-known writers and their works.
* To improve our reading comprehension.
* To continue to improve grammar proficiency to become more skillful writers and speakers.
* To engage in active communication, both written and spoken.

# MAJOR UNITS—

Vocabulary/Spelling

Reading

* Read Theory
* Independent Reading Book
* Romeo and Juliet
* Mythology
* Of Mice and Men
* Literature Circles

Grammar

Persuasive Techniques

* Advertising

Speech Communication

* Demonstration Speeches
* This class is both a reading and writing class. You are expected to bring your class materials and independent reading book with you to class every day. When you have an assignment, I expect you to be working and not visiting or wasting time.
* We will have vocabulary/spelling tests weekly. You will be provided with the year’s lists. Vocabulary practice will be done on Thursday with the spelling test on Friday.
* Assignments must be turned in on time if you want full credit for your work; this includes any assignment that was due the day/days you were gone, if it had been previously assigned. For credit, all assignments must be completed prior to taking the test. Late work will receive one grade lower for each day that it has not been turned in. **Five** class days is the maximum for any credit, after which the MI cannot be changed. Any assignment, in which the answers are discussed in class, will not be accepted late. It is your responsibility to see that missing assignments are completed. An MI will be entered in the gradebook, for any missing work.

# CLASS PARTICIPATION—

Your contribution in class is essential to your learning, for this reason attendance and class participation are of great importance. You will be given points for your daily attendance/participation. If you choose to act inappropriately, these points will be taken from you. If you are absent, you will not receive these points.

**CHROMEBOOKS—**

All information regarding Chromebook usage, care and expectations will be followed according to the handbook. You will need to supply your own ear buds.

**CLASSROOM PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY—**

Your cell phones and other personal devices should be kept in your locker. They will not be allowed in the classroom. If I see them out in the classroom, they will be taken until the end of the hour. Continued offences and it will be returned at the end of the school day. If it continues to be an issue, your device will be brought to the office. Further consequences are in the student handbook.

**EXTRA CREDIT—**

Extra credit is very limited. However, your extra credit will only count if every assignment has been turned in. You may use enough extra credit to raise your grade one increment (i.e. B+ to A-). Any unused points may be carried over to the next qtr. but they may not be used in place of assignment points, they are only extra credit!

# BRING TO CLASS—

* Textbook/class materials
* Notebook
* Chromebook
* Ear buds/headphones
* A folder in which to keep class handouts and worksheets
* Pencil and pen, blue or black.
* A novel for independent reading-You are encouraged to keep a book in the book bin so that you have it each day. Mondays will be reading days.

## GRADING SCALE

99-100 A+ 77 – 79 C+

93 – 98 A 73 – 76 C

90 – 92 A- 70 – 72 C-

87 – 89 B+ 67 – 69 D+

83 – 86 B 63 – 66 D

80 – 82 B- 60 – 62 D-

59 and lower F

**ONLINE CLASS RESOURCES—**

[Google Classroom](http://evla.weebly.com)

BHS Classroom Page: http://www.browerville.k12.mn.us/language-arts---9.html

JMC Gradebook: https://browerville.onlinejmc.com/

**\*Be sure that you are regularly checking your grades on JMC! Please talk with me if you have questions or believe an error has been made.**

**JMC Codes:** MI=missing included, X=exempt, P=pending, M=missing not included

**CLASS RULES AND REGULATIONS** are based on the principles of RESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY.

1. Respect yourself, classmates, teacher & school.
2. Come prepared and ready to learn.
3. Complete work to the best of your ability.
4. No swearing or offensive language.
5. After an absence a make-up slip must be presented upon reentrance to class. For a planned absence, please inform me in advance.
6. No personal devices or backpacks are allowed in the classroom.
7. Be thankful for your education, it is a privilege.
8. Please see the BHS Student Handbook for further rules/expectations.

# BEHAVIOR CONSEQUENCES

1. In the case of gross insubordination, or disruptive behavior you will be removed from class. Parent will be notified and appropriate consequences will be given. Prior to being readmitted, a conference must take place with the teacher.
2. Cheating will not be tolerated. Both the cheater and the one supplying the answers will be given the following consequences: A zero will be given for the assignment or test and it will be marked as such in the grade book. Additional offenses may result in permanent suspension from class.
3. Any backpacks brought into the classroom will be placed outside the room.
4. Please see student handbook for further guidelines.

**COURSE SCHEDULE—**

Mondays: Read Theory Assignment and Independent Reading Book

Thursdays: Vocabulary

Fridays: Spelling Test

Quarter 1-2: Drama

* William Shakespeare—his life and works
* Intro to R&J with the movie Gnomeo & Juliet
* Romeo & Juliet—read the play aloud
* Quizzes on each act I-V
* Newspaper project
* Escape Room for Review
* Final Test
* Movie
* Approx. length of time: 11 weeks (Sept 3-Nov 15)

Quarter 2: Mythology

* Gods/Goddess Presentations (12 key gods/goddesses)
* Read Edith Hamilton’s book: “Prometheus & Io”, “Europa”, “Cyclops”, “Flower Myths”, Love Stories, “Phaethon”, “Pegasus”, Bellerophon”, “Otus”, “Ephialtes”, “Daedalus”, and “The Trojan War”.
* Final Project/Test
* Approx. length of time: 7 weeks (Nov 18-Jan 10)

Quarter 3: Advertising

* Persuasive Techniques (ethos, pathos & logos)
* Create a Commercial
* Final Test
* Approx. length of time: 4 weeks (Jan 13-Feb 7)

Quarter 3: Public Speaking

* Demonstration Speech
* Approx. length of time: 3 weeks (Feb 10-Feb 28)

Quarter 3: Grammar

* Common Grammar Errors and Parts of Speech
* Approx. length of time: 3 weeks (March 2-20)

Quarter 4: Novel

* Of Mice and Men
* Intro to time period/John Steinbeck
* Study Guide
* Final Test
* Movie
* Approx. length of time: 4 weeks (March 23-April 17)

Quarter 4: Literature Circles

* Teach Literature Circle Expectations
* Assigned Group Chooses Novel
* Group Presentation of Book
* Approx. length of time: 4 weeks (April 20-May 15)