Clayton High School

Ninth-Grade English

Deana Tennill (English Department Chair)



CHS English Department

CHS English students value language as a tool for reflection and exploration of personal and intellectual concerns, and in doing so become critical readers, writers and thinkers.

Essential Practices

- Shared and Independent Reading
- Choice and Assigned Writing
- Discussion
- Inquiry
- Celebration and Demonstration of Learning

CHS Conference Program

Students:

- **confer** with their English teachers ten times each year;
- **set** individual writing goals with their teachers;
- and **assess** progress toward these goals.

When do students meet for conferences?

Answer: Outside of class time

- half of a lunch period
- Learning Center
- the half period after science lab
- before or after school

Literature

The ninth-grade curriculum grounds readers in classic literature, introducing archetypes that they will encounter throughout their high school careers.

What do 9th graders read?

- \Box The Odyssey
- ☐ Romeo and Juliet
- \Box Lord of the Flies
- \square a variety of poems, essays, and short stories
- novels of choice
- Other full-class titles may include A Raisin in the Sun, The Life of Pi, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Oedipus, and Antigone

Support and Enrichment

- -Summer School
- -Learning Center Humanities
- -Learning Center Study
- -Honors English I

How do College Prep English I teachers support student needs in their classrooms?

- High expectations (with scaffolding)
- Conferences early in writing process
- Writing goals: shorter but substantively developed, teacher-generated thesis, essential mechanics goals
- Parallel texts
- Discussion starters
- Provided background information

How do College Prep English I teachers challenge students and offer enrichment in their classrooms?

- High expectations
- Writing goals: rich thesis, additional development, building voice, alternate structure
- Related and/or additional texts
- Discussion leadership
- Related research

Enrichment: Honors English I

Students entering this class should have exceptional skill in reading and essay-writing.

How is honors different from College Prep?

Expectations for Honors English I

Students in this class will:

- ♦ Read additional texts;
- Complete specific independent reading assignments, including a summer project;
- Engage in in-depth study of literature, including synthesis of texts early in the school year;
- Be self-directed in reading and writing assignments.

Placement Considerations

- Signed statement of interest
- Standardized test profile
- District assessment
- Academic characteristics, including grade

Support Classes

- Learning Center: Study
- Learning Center: Humanities
- Assistance of Reading Specialist
- Academic Reading I

For more information: contact Deana Tennill

deanatennill@claytonschools.net

or 314-854-6881.

Welcome to CHS!