

## North High School Course Syllabus 2009-2010

**Course:** English 9A, 9B, 9C for Freshman Academy

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### **Introduction / Overview:**

English 9 for Freshman Academy is designed for students that have been identified by teachers and counselors as needing help in the area of reading and writing. This course is designed to help students work toward meeting or exceeding grade-level reading and writing skills.

In order to accomplish, this class uses READ180, an intensive reading program. READ180 will help your student recognize and spell words correctly. It will also improve your student's ability to comprehend text. This program also provides materials for your student to read grade-level books independently, with confidence and fluency in all subjects.

In the READ180 program, students will receive a variety of daily instruction. First, they will engage in both large- and small-group instruction that focuses on aspects of reading and writing. They will also be required to read independently and journal on what they have read. When books are completed, they must pass a test on each book and complete a report on the book. Finally, students will be spending time on the computers using the READ180 software. This software has three areas of emphasis: reading, vocabulary, and spelling.

### **Class Expectations:**

- Students will be **on time, with materials**, and **ready to learn**.
- Materials needed everyday: notebook, folder, pen/pencil, and course materials.
- Students will be **respectful** of self, of others, and of property; everyone has the right to be treated respectfully and everyone has the right to teach and learn without interruption.
- Students will follow the same rules advocated by the school.
- Students will keep the room and its property clean.
- Students will **listen** to others. Only one person talks at a time. We all have ideas to share.
- Students will **manage time wisely** and **complete all assignments** required of them on time (see late work).
- Students will **read** and **write** daily. Working in small and large groups is also expected.

### **Reading Requirements:** (reading levels based on each student's Lexile score)

#### **Level 1: Trimester Reading Requirements**

- 5 books at **level 1** books during a trimester and complete a book packet for each book.
- One audiobook and complete a book packet for each book.

#### **Level 2: Trimester Reading Requirements**

- Read one of the following 3 choices: The Skin I'm In, Stargirl, or Sunny. You must complete a book packet for the book of choice.
- 3 books at **level 3** books during a trimester and complete a book packet for each book.
- One audiobook and complete a book packet for each book.

#### **Level 3: Trimester Reading Requirements**

- Read one of the following 3 choices: Driver's Ed, Slam! Or Stick and Whittle. You must complete a book packet for the book of choice.
- 2 books at **level 3** books during a trimester and complete a book packet for each book.
- One audiobook and complete a book packet for each book.

#### **Level 4: Trimester Reading Requirements**

- Read one of the following 3 choices: The Greatest, Romiette and Julio or Swallowing Stones. You must complete a book packet for the book of choice.
- 2 books at **level 4** books during a trimester and complete a book packet for each book.
- One audiobook and complete a book packet for each book.

### Computer Requirements:

Each student must complete at least three units (or discs) per trimester. Failure to do so will have a dramatic effect on a student's grade.

### Classroom Procedures:

In order to begin class on time, students need to be in their seats with materials, ready to start. Students should not get out of their seats during instructional or work time. Passes are only signed in an emergency. ***Please use your passing time to take care of your needs.***

### Website:

Daily schedules are available on my website (see above). If your student is missing an assignment or absent, you can find most assignments there. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to access the files.

### Handing in Work:

If you are handing in work at a time other than when I collect it, please give it me directly. ***To put work anywhere else is to risk losing it, which means that you are responsible if it is lost!***

### Late Work:

**Attendance is important**; some daily assignments may not be made up. In the event of an absence, the student will receive the same number of school days they were absent to complete missing work with no penalty. All other late work will receive a significantly lower grade. Still, a late grade is better than no grade at all. Please ask me if you are unsure about making up an assignment or if you have a special situation. Several times throughout the quarter I will set deadlines for turning in late work up to that time.

### Tardy Policy:

Students are expected to be ready to learn when the class bell rings (see above). If tardies do occur, the following applies: Tardy #3 = warning; Tardy #6 = referral to administrator (after school detention);

### Absences:

If you are absent it is your responsibility to see what you missed and get your make-up work (this must be done upon your return). Work should be made up according to the policy above. Please see me with a special situation, and I will do my best to work with you.

### Help:

Students are encouraged to seek help outside of class. I am often in my classroom or office after and before school. I will also be more than happy to arrange a different time to speak with you.

### Academic Integrity:

***Honesty in work is absolutely expected in this classroom.*** We are all here to learn and our work offers evidence of this occurring. Dishonesty, including copying work from someone else or from another source (including the web), allowing your own work to be copied, talking or using notes during a quiz or test (unless allowed), and any other dishonest actions will result in serious consequences. There will be no points given for the involved assignment and further action could ensue.

### Grading:

A = 93.0%	B- = 80.0%	D+ = 67.0%
A- = 90.0%	C+ = 77.0%	D = 63.0%
B+ = 87.0%	C = 73.0%	D- = 60.0%
B = 83.0%	C- = 70.0%	

### Text Resources:

*Read180 Rbook*  
*Read180 Library*  
*Elements of Literature, Third Course – Holt*