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| **Course Name** | 9th Grade Literature and Composition | **Course Code** | 23.0610000 |
| **School Name** | DeKalb Early College Academy | **Teacher Name** | Ian Custar |
| **School Phone Number** | 678-875-Ext 2441 | **Teacher Email** | Ian\_Custar@dekalbschoolsga.org |
| **School Website** | <http://www.deca.dekalb.k12.ga.us/> | **Tutorial** | Tuesdays 3:30 – 4:30  M, W, Th, Fr 7:30-8:00 by appointment only |

***9th Grade Literature and Composition – Course Syllabus***

**Course Description**

Utilizing the English Language Arts Georgia Standards of Excellence for English Language Arts and Literature and Composition 9, this course focuses on the study of literature and is designed for heterogeneously grouped students. The course includes the study of various works of literature that identify with a variety of themes. Representative literary works are surveyed for content, style, form, diction, and relevancy to contemporary times. Literary forms covered include the short story, novel, poetry, drama, and prose nonfiction. In each genre, content, style, form, and diction are studied. Public speaking, test preparation, and the use of current technology are integrated into the semester’s study. Emphasis is placed on the development of critical and analytical thinking skills through classroom discussion and compositions. The student will complete several major writing assignments during the semester. The student will prepare for end-of-course Milestone Test.

**Department Philosophy**

The English Department seeks to empower all learners as thinkers and communicators. In the words of the DCSD English Language Arts Frameworks we "recognize that facility with language, which includes knowing how to read and write effectively, is vital to success the success of all students.”

**The overall mission of the English Department is to promote literacy – specifically the ability to read, write, and think critically.**

**Board-approved Instructional Materials**

Prentice Hall Literature: Grade Nine, Penguin Edition (ISBN: 0-13-131755-5)

Replacement cost: $60.00

**Curriculum Overview**

The following academic concepts will be covered. **THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

**Introduction to Literature (Unit 1)** – Weeks 1-3

**Short Fiction (Unit 2)** – Weeks 4-7

**Poetry (Unit 3)** – Weeks 8-10

**Drama (Unit 4)** – Weeks 11-13

**Non-fiction (Unit 5)** – Weeks 14-18

**GRADING**

“The DeKalb County School District believes that the most important assessment of student learning shall be conducted by the teachers as they observe and evaluate students in the context of ongoing classroom instruction. A variety of approaches, methodologies, and resources shall be used to deliver educational services and to maximize each student’s opportunity to succeed. Teachers shall evaluate student progress, report grades that represent the student’s academic achievement, and communicate official academic progress to students and parents in a timely manner through the electronic grading portal.” (See **Board Policy IHA**)

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| **GRADING CATEGORIES** | **\*GRADE PROTOCOL** |
| **Prior to Learning & Assessments of Learning- 0%**  **Assessment During Learning – 25%**  **Guided, Independent, or Group Practice – 45%**  **Assessments of Learning - 30%** | **A** 90 – 100 ~**P** (pass)  **B** 80 – 89 ~**F** (fail)  **C** 71 – 79  **D** 70  **F** Below 70 |

Assignments are assigned based on points earned; a student’s average, therefore, is the result of adding up all earned points and dividing that number by the number of total points possible. The following is a list of possible points for typical assignments:

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| **Grading Category** | **Typical assignments and point values** |
| Prior to Learning & Assessments of Learning (0%) | County-mandated unit pre-/post-assessments  MAP testing |
| Assessment During Learning (25%) | County-mandated Unit Tasks  Quizzes  Overnight essays  Short projects |
| Guided, Independent, or Group Practice (45%) | Daily work (classwork, homework)  Weekly work (independent reading journals, writing prompts, etc.)  In-class essays  Reading checks |
| Assessments of Learning (30%) | County-mandated benchmark tests (quarterly)  Tests  Projects  Multi-step essays |

**Georgia End-of-Course Milestone Test**

The state of Georgia mandates an end-of-course milestone test for 9th Grade Literature and Composition. This test, written by the state, counts for 20% of your final grade.

**Assignments: Assignments are due at the beginning of class.**

**Late work**

Late work will **not** be accepted. This is an English department policy.

**Late work and excused absences (from District guidelines):** If the student has an excused absence, the number of days out equal number of days to turn in missed assignments. If an assignment has a preannounced due date, for example a research rough or final draft, the student will receive a zero if the work is not turned in on the due date.

**Recovery**

In keeping with the rigorous expectations of the Early College model, there is **no policy for re-taking assessments or re-submitting assignments in this class.** All assignments are to be completed to the best of your ability, and must be submitted on time.

**Tutorial opportunities**

Professor Custar offers tutorial **Tuesdays from 3:30pm to 4:30pm (**and morning tutorial 7:30-8:00a on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday ***by appointment only***).

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| **DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS FOR SUCCESS** | |
| STUDENT PROGRESS | Semester progress reports shall be issued four and a half, nine and thirteen and a half weeks into each semester.  The progress of students shall be evaluated frequently and plans shall be generated to remediate deficiencies as they are discovered. Plans shall include appropriate interventions designed to meet the needs of the students. See Board Policy IH. |
| ACADEMIC INTEGRITY | Students will not engage in an act of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, providing false information, falsifying school records, forging signatures, or using an unauthorized computer user ID or password. See the Code of Student Conduct - Student Rights and Responsibilities and Character Development Handbook. |
| HOMEWORK | Homework assignments should be meaningful and should be an application or adaptation of a classroom experience.  Homework is at all times an extension of the teaching/learning experience.  It should be considered the possession of the student and should be collected, evaluated and returned to the students. See Board Policy IHB. |
| MAKE-UP WORK  DUE TO ABSENCES | When a student is absent because of a legal reason as defined by Georgia law or when the absence is apparently beyond the control of the student, the student shall be given an opportunity to earn grade(s) for those days absent. Make-up work must be completed within the designated time allotted. See Board Policy IHEA. |
| MAKE-UP FOR EXCUSED SICK ABSENCES, PREANNOUNCED ASSIGNMENTS, MISSED WORK | If the student has an excused absence, the number of days out equal number of days to turn in missed assignments. If an assignment has a preannounced due date, for example a research rough or final draft, the student will receive a zero if the work is not turned in on the due date. No late work accepted. If a student simply does not turn in an assignment, the student may not submit and receives a zero. |
| **SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS FOR SUCCESS** | |
| CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS | 1. Respect self, classmates, and teacher.  2. Attend school daily.  3. Arrive to class promptly.  4. Be in seats when the bell rings.  5. Bring assignments, book(s), notebook, and pen to class daily.  6. Set goals and achieve them.  7. Remain awake and alert, no head on desk.  8. Refrain from bringing food, candy, or drink to class. |
| EXTRA HELP | TUTORIAL TIMES: **Tuesdays 3:30 – 4:30**; morning tutorial (M, W, Th, F) by appointment only. |
| PARENTS AS PARTNERS | Keep in contact (Ian\_Custar@dekalbschoolsga.org), check in with your student, Monitor grades on Verge and attend conference nights. |

**Class Supplies:**

1. Chrome-book as supplied via the district or personal laptop computer.

2. Black Ink pens (3-6 should be sufficient for the semester)

3. 200 to 300 sheets of **college ruled** notebook paper. (No spiral notebooks)

4. **SPACE IN A THREE-RING BINDER** (*do not get a binder JUST for English class!! Your locker will not hold four separate binders!!)*

5. **Five** binder dividers, labeled ***Warm ups***, ***Reference Sheets***, ***Writing***, ***Class notes***, and ***Handouts***

6. Folder (pockets, three-hole) to hold temporary work (homework, drafts, etc.) and returned work

**\*\*Items not supplied by the District: Tissue, bleach wipes, hand sanitizer.** These are not required but are greatly appreciated.

***Parent / Guardian Contact Information***

DeKalb Early College Academy – Professor Custar – Fall 2019

(Complete and return as acknowledgement of receipt of syllabus – PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!)

**Student’s Name:**

**Parent/Guardian’s Name:**

**Relation to Student:**

**Parent/ Guardian Local Phone Number:**

**Parent/Guardian Email Address:**

**Student Email Address:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Anything you want me to know about you or any health issues:**

**Any other contact information you want me to have:**

**Middle School Attended:**

**High School if you did not attend DECA:**