Grade 9 ELA Course Outline

Mrs. Fehr

**Course Description:** The purpose of this course is for the student to meet the five learning outcomes of the Manitoba Curriculum by interacting with a wide range of materials. Students will be exposed to poems, short stories, novels, plays, newspapers, letters, videos and music as they work towards meeting the **five general learning outcomes**:

1. Explore thoughts, ideas, feelings and experiences.
2. Comprehend and respond personally and critically to a variety of texts.
3. Manage ideas and information.
4. Enhance the clarity and artistry of communication.
5. Celebrate and build community.

While working toward these 5 outcomes students will continue to build on the 6 English skill areas: reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing and representing. We will build each skill through a wide variety of creative as well as pragmatic activities and assignments.

**Course units: (these may be rearranged as needed due to time restraints)**

* Introductory Unit (September)
	+ This will include topics such as the writing process and review of grammar principles.
* Media Awareness/Research Techniques (September - October)
	+ This will include topics such as research, referencing and citations, determining credible sources, and bias.
* *Milkweed* (November - December)
	+ This will include topics such as the Holocaust, war, stereotyping, genocide, and growing up.
* ‘Growing Up’ Short Stories (January)
	+ This will include various topics related to the theme of growing up such as change, transitions, and identity.
* Myths/Heroes Thematic Unit (February)
	+ Will include a variety of genres related to the theme and a film study in which we will track character development for heroes/villains.
* *April Raintree* (March-April)
	+ This will include topics such as foster care, stereotyping, and family ties.
* *The Little Prince* (May)
	+ As we visit different planets alongside the Little Prince we will learn about vanity, love, friendship, materialism, dealing with problems, and the importance of individuality and creativity.
* Poetry/Creative Writing (June)
	+ This will include topics such as literary techniques related to poetry and creative writing.
* The Writing Process (ongoing)
* Portfolios (ongoing)

**Using Sources:**

All assignments for which you use sources will be submitted with a Works Cited page in MLA style. You may use the Citation Machine to do this. There are no exceptions. Failure to do this will be considered plagiarism and will result in a mark of 0 for the entire assignment or project. We will review MLA format and citations in class at the beginning of the year.

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| Term Work | Assignments, tests, quizzes, reflections, projects, self-assessments, etc. | 70% of final grade |
| Independent Reading Assignments | Choose 2 books that you will read during silent reading time to complete the assignment for.  | 5% of final grade |
| Mid-Term Exam | A review of topics discussed up until the exam | 10% of final grade |
| Final Assignment |  | 15% of final grade |

**Classroom Expectations:**

“Follow the 3 R’s:

1. Respect for self
2. Respect for others
3. Responsibility for all your actions.”

The Dalai Lama

**Arriving late to class:**

When you come in late, you are disrupting the class and you are also missing out on valuable information. If you come in late, do not interrupt the class. Sit quietly at your desk until there is time for the teacher or another student to explain the lesson. Remember that each late is ½ an absence. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to catch up on missed work. After 20 absences you will lose your credit for the course.

**Late/Incomplete Assignments:**

Assignments are due **at the** **beginning of each class** unless otherwise stated. If assignments worth more than 10 marks are not submitted on the due date, you will lose 10% per day for 5 days and then you will receive a zero. Assignments less than 10 marks will not be accepted after the due date unless you have spoken with me beforehand. If you need an extension, you need to come and see me **before** the due date. You may still be required to complete the assignment on your own time to receive a credit for the course.

Homework will be posted regularly on the class website at: http://carberrycollegiate.weebly.com/.

Feel free to come and see me if you have questions about the class or how you are doing – I am here to do what I can to help you succeed. Please do not hesitate to email me at afehr@bpsd.mb.ca. You can also contact me at the school at (204) 834-2172.

Please have your parent or guardian read over this outline with you. Sign and return to class as soon as possible.

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Grade 9 ELA: Mrs. Fehr 2013-2014

I have read and understand the course outline.

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s email address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents: I prefer to be contacted by:

* + Email
	+ Phone