



# English 9

Semester 1 Syllabus – Fall 2020

Mr. Kroll – Room 228

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586-493-5270 ext. 2654

## Course Curriculum

English 9 is a reading and writing course that surveys authors and works from across the globe in different genres. Essays, poetry, short stories, plays, non-fiction, and novels by major American authors are read and studied. Students are also immersed in grammar instruction, an informational research project, and provided instruction in argumentation writing. **Reading and writing are essential components in this course.**

## Course Objectives

Students will be able to:

- cite strong and thorough evidence from texts to support analysis.
- determine and analyze the theme and/or central idea of a text.
- analyze how an author's choices regarding text structure and the use of literary devices influence understanding.
- objectively summarize a variety of texts.
- write arguments using valid reasoning to support claims of meaningful topics or texts.
- initiate and participate in collaborative discussions to reinforce a diversity of ideas.
- use correct grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
- use correct capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

## A Note about Room 228 and Classroom Expectations

Our classroom philosophy and mantra is **LISTEN, LEARN, EXERT, RESPECT**. It is your responsibility to review in detail his classroom expectations on his website – click on **About Room 228**. My classroom expectations mirror those of High School North **Perseverance, Respect, Integrity, Dedication, Excellence**.

Mr. Kroll will uphold and enforce **all** L'Anse Creuse High School-North rules and/or policies in the classroom. It is your responsibility to be aware of these Standards of Conduct. They can be found on the district website or go to Mr. Kroll's website and click on **Crusader Nation**.

Masks are **REQUIRED** to be worn at all times; social distancing will also be enforced. Please **DO NOT ENTER** room 228 with food or drink (except bottled water). Come prepared **EVERYDAY**, and don't disrupt class!

## Materials Requested

- ❖ Face masks
- ❖ Composition Notebook (100 sheets or greater; preferably, college-ruled) **NOT SPIRAL-BOUND**
- ❖ Sturdy two pocket folder OR 3-ring binder
- ❖ A novel of fiction or non-fiction (to read daily in class)
- ❖ Clorox Wipes, Hand Sanitizer, or Kleenex tissue
- ❖ A set of highlighters (one of each color: blue, yellow, green, and pink)
- ❖ Pens and pencils
- ❖ Technology that can access Schoology, if possible

*All materials should be obtained by Wednesday, September 23, 2020.*

## **Student Cell Phones & Technology Access**

Research shows that technology use in the classroom induces student interest and motivation making its usage in schools important. However, it is important to consider how students use and engage technology in education as well. Students in Room 228 will use cell phones and other technologies in responsible ways; if cell phones are used improperly they will be confiscated according to district policy and turned over to an administrator. Student cell phone policies can be found on the district website or go to Mr. Kroll's website and click on **Crusader Nation**.

Due to COVID-19, all classes will utilize Schoology on a regular basis. Schoology is a Learning Management System that will house all coursework. *If you have a device (i.e., smartphone, laptop, tablet), please bring it to class each day!* Most work (due to these circumstances) will be distributed and completed online. Should we happen to move into REMOTE LEARNING at any point, Schoology, Remind, and Video Conferencing will be used to conduct classes. Please be familiar with these technologies.

It will also be helpful for students during this semester to have access to a working computer that is connected to the Internet and a printer. If this is not possible, students are welcome to use computers and printers at LCN before or after school each day. Students should let Mr. Kroll know if they need to do this.

## **Attendance & Tardy Policy**

Mr. Kroll takes attendance daily and records it in PowerSchool; he also adheres to all school policies with regard to the attendance and tardy policies, and the Credit Review process. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with these policies – they can be found on the district website or on Mr. Kroll's website and click on **Crusader Nation**.

It is also important to know that when a student misses class, they miss valuable instructional time that cannot be recreated because it often includes teacher lecture/dialogue, group participation, class discussions, and a myriad of other activities that engage the student in a classroom learning environment with their peers. Students who miss instructional time for any reason should find their missing work on Schoology. If a question remains, they are more than welcome to ask Mr. Kroll *before or after school* by scheduling an appointment. It is not appropriate to ask about missing work during passing time or during classroom instruction.

## **The English Department is unified in the following policies outlined below:**

- ❖ Students who are absent are responsible for making up assignments on their time, not on class time. Students should get notes taken in class from another peer in class on their own time.
- ❖ Students are responsible for asking for make-up assignments and must take make-up assessments *after school* (not during class time) as scheduled by the teacher.
- ❖ Students who have an EXCUSED absence will be allowed to take make-up assessments.
- ❖ Students who have an UNEXCUSED absence on the day an assessment, project, or assignment is assigned or due will earn zero (0) points.
- ❖ Due dates and test dates are announced in advance (with the exception of Pop Quizzes). Absences the day before a test, prior to the due date for any assignment, does not excuse students from taking tests, quizzes, turning in assigned work or participation in class discussion.

***If a student is absent from my class on a day that an essay or other major assignment is due, it should be submitted through Schoology.***

## **Late Work**

Deadlines are a part of life. Mr. Kroll does **not** accept late work. It is the expectation that all assignments be turned in on time. Homework turned in a day late receives a zero.

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity will be expected of students for any and all assignments. Any occurrence of plagiarism, cheating, or copying of one another's work will result in a zero for the assignment and further disciplinary action as determined by the instructor and the Dean of Students. If you are unfamiliar with these terms (*plagiarism, cheating, or copying*), it is your responsibility to know what these terms mean.

## **Writing Assignments**

All writing assignments must be typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font, on 8.5 x 11 paper, and in MLA format. If you need help with MLA format, please reference this helpful site here: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>.

## **Class Reminders**

Mr. Kroll uses Remind to send text messages to students and parents alike. All students are required to subscribe. Students should send: @kroll9 to the phone number: 81010 to subscribe.

## **Evaluation, Grading System, & PowerSchool\***

Research shows that students need multiple opportunities to practice a skill before they can master it. Therefore, Mr. Kroll provides a variety of differentiated activities and assignments from different perspectives to help students achieve success. While Mr. Kroll expects students to complete each assignment and participate in class, in order to work towards mastery, he does not grade all of it. And many times, the grade earned is for completion, not accuracy.

A point system will be used in this course. Each assignment is awarded a predetermined number of points. At the end of the marking period, the grade will be decided by dividing the number of points earned by the total number of possible points, using the scale below. Mr. Kroll updates grades on a regular basis. Students are responsible for checking their grades on their own time or after school – not during class time.

|           |         |           |        |           |        |           |        |          |           |
|-----------|---------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|----------|-----------|
| <b>A+</b> | 98-100% | <b>B+</b> | 87-89% | <b>C+</b> | 77-79% | <b>D+</b> | 67-69% | <b>F</b> | Below 60% |
| <b>A</b>  | 93-97%  | <b>B</b>  | 83-86% | <b>C</b>  | 73-76% | <b>D</b>  | 63-66% |          |           |
| <b>A-</b> | 90-92%  | <b>B-</b> | 80-82% | <b>C-</b> | 70-72% | <b>D-</b> | 60-62% |          |           |

<sup>1</sup>st and <sup>2</sup>nd card markings each count for 40 % of your final grade and the semester examination counts for 20%.

*\* It is beneficial to record and save each assignment until a final grade is posted. Any grade in dispute will be acknowledged if student presents the graded assignment. If not, the record book will stand.*

***Students earn grades and are each individual's responsibility. The time to worry about a grade is while doing the work, not after assignments are graded.***

## **Office Hours/Need Help**

Mr. Kroll is available for academic assistance and/or assessment make-ups most mornings and Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Students who miss an assessment during the school day with an EXCUSED absence MUST make-up their assessment within **three** school days of their absence. ***Students are responsible for scheduling a time to meet with Mr. Kroll.***

## **Contact Information**

Mr. Kroll prefers to be contacted via e-mail at [krollji@lc-ps.org](mailto:krollji@lc-ps.org). You may also contact High School North at 586-493-5270 and leave a message on his voicemail at extension 2654. In both cases (with the exception of weekends), you can expect a response within 24-48 hours.

**Upon receipt and review of the Syllabus, students are required to complete the Syllabus Signature Form on Schoology, and parents are required to complete the Syllabus Signature Form on Mr. Kroll's website – [www.krollpatrol.com](http://www.krollpatrol.com).**

*This should be completed by Wednesday, September 23, 2020.*