

Wachusett Regional High School

Course Name and Level: English 9

Level: Honors, Academic Foundations (AF), and Academic Enrichment (AE)

Grade (s): 9

Course Description:

Freshman English and World History I curricula offer students an interdisciplinary approach to their study of literature and related historical events, people, and places. Relevant literary selections are connected with such topics as Greek and Roman cultures including mythology, The Judeo-Christian culture, The Middle Ages, The Renaissance, The Reformation, and The Age of Exploration and Discovery.

Other Major Emphases Include:

MCAS preparation; review and instruction in grammar, mechanics and usage; literature instruction to include literary terms, types of genres, appreciation, literary analysis, creative writings; critical thinking; vocabulary development; library skills. Study Skills will be scheduled for one semester on days opposite physical education class. Summer Reading and Writing is required of all incoming ninth grade Honors students. All other students will receive a suggested reading list.

Links to Student Expectations:

1. All students will learn to communicate critically, persuasively, and personally in both oral and written expression.
2. All students will develop skills to promote a sense of confidence in tackling the rigors of standardized tests such as the required MCAS and optional AP, SAT.

Interdisciplinary Connections:

- ✓ Links to World History content

Essential Concepts:

1. Expose students to the literary experience.
2. Prepare students for the MCAS.
3. Improve reading and writing skills.

Student Objectives:

1. Students will write a research paper.
2. Students will write critical essays.
3. Students will study mythology.
4. Students will read novels, short stories, and poetry.
5. Students will add to their vocabularies.

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Suggestions for Instruction:

- ✓ *The Odyssey*
- ✓ Bible Stories
- ✓ *Romeo and Juliet*
- ✓ *Henry IV, part I*
- ✓ *The Merchant of Venice*
- ✓ *Gilgamesh*
- ✓ *Beowulf*
- ✓ *Canterbury Tales*
- ✓ *Arthurian legends*
- ✓ *The Iliad*
- ✓ *Lord of the Flies*
- ✓ *Of Mice and Men*
- ✓ *The Old Man and the Sea*
- ✓ *The Diary of Anne Frank*

Suggestions for Assessment:

- ✓ Quizzes for detail
- ✓ Essays
- ✓ MCAS Long Composition rubric
- ✓ Written and oral presentations with rubrics

Curriculum:

- ✓ Students will use the technologies in the Media Center.
- ✓ Students will utilize multiple drafts in writing.
- ✓ Students will take notes.
- ✓ Students will utilize the "WRHS Writing and Research Manual."

Lesson Extensions:

- ✓ Creative writing with drafts
- ✓ View and write about films critically
- ✓ Keep a journal