

CLASS SYLLABUS

Welcome, OHS Class of '09!

Read more to find out what's coming up in your Freshman English class.



CLASS ACTIVITIES NEED SUPPLIES

Make sure you're ready to go every day by having the right materials with you. For this class, you need a three-ring binder with eight tabbed dividers, plenty of notebook paper (keep about 25 sheets in your notebook), three pencils, and three blue or black

pens. Gel, glitter, or metallic pens are not acceptable.

You will receive an OHS English Primer this week; bring it to class each day, as well. Check out misterfriend.net for information about and links to the required materials listed here.

Your Keys to Success

Mr. Friend's English 9 is a demanding class, but you'll always have resources you can use to help you through. Use them wisely, and you will see that everything we do in class is challenging, but possible.

The most helpful tool you can use is the class website at <http://misterfriend.net>. It's kept up-to-date most every day of school and includes a class calendar, daily homework assignments, and class handouts. If you forget a paper at school, you can print another one out from home — saved!

Each week, Mr. Friend is available for make-up work or to provide extra help to anyone who feels they need it. Just stop by Monday & Tuesday afternoons (until 3:00) or Thursday & Friday mornings 6:45-7:15.



CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Because our class will be quite small, there will be more opportunity for each student to participate in discussions and reading activities. You need to be prepared to contribute to every conversation we have about the material we're studying. Participation can count up to 10% of your final grade.

Timing means a lot in Read 180, and you need to be sure you're in class on time each



day. Tardies will be handled according to the OHS Attendance Policy (which you'll hear more about this week). Additionally, passes written to leave class for non-academic reasons will be marked as tardies.

You are also expected to do your own work in this class. You should respect yourself enough to take pride in the work that you do correctly and successes you achieve.

Exam/Break Schedule

September 30 – October 9

Fall Break

November 23–27

Thanksgiving Break

December 7–9 + 14–16

Second Quarter + Semester A Exams

December 17 – January 2

Winter Break

March 7–9

Third Quarter Exams

March 10–19

Spring Break

March 20

Research Projects Due

May 17–19 + 22–24

Fourth Quarter + Semester B Exams



Good grades take constant focus.

GRADING POLICIES

Grades for this class will be based on a weighted average of all the assignments completed for the entire quarter. All work done, both in the computer system for Read 180 and in the literature component at the end of each period, will be combined together into one score that will count for two classes on your report card.

This course is the most significant one you're in this year, because it is required for you to become a sophomore next year, and it is worth twice as much in your GPA as your other classes are. Be sure you put your best effort into doing well in class.

You will receive separate information about grades in Read 180, but the remainder of the class will be divided into several types of assignments: classwork, tests, and projects. Each of those types will be worth the same amount in your quarter average.

Every nine weeks, you will take a quarter exam that will count as 25% of your report card grade. In December and May, you might take semester exams, which account for 20% of your semester average (the grade that figures into your GPA). The OHS Attendance Policy allows you to skip those exams if your attendance and grades are really good, so don't let them slip.

LITERATURE WE'LL STUDY

While you progress through Read 180 this year, we'll also study the literature that is a part of Freshman English, but in an unusual way. We've got our work cut out for us. Here is a preview of what we'll go through:

Short Stories

A handful of tales ranging from murder mysteries to childhood friendships to life-or-death court trials and haunting tales of revenge. A review using Disney's *Fantasia/2000* rounds out the unit.

The Epic

The Odyssey is a complex story about a hero from Greek mythology. We'll watch a film version of it, then read some of the highlights that the movie misses.

The Novel

We'll read *To Kill a Mockingbird* during the third quarter. This is one you'll want to read through and through... it's worth it. During our studies, we'll watch *The Long Walk Home* to see a different viewpoint of the events in the book.

The Play

Romeo and Juliet becomes the focus of our reading at the end of the year. We'll read the parts out loud in class after watching a modern film version to understand what happens in this complex story of twists, turns, and mistrust.

Research

While *research* isn't another story to read, it is definitely another type of text to work with. We'll put together research papers during the third quarter, and you'll have a rehearsed presentation to make in front of the class.

Contact Information

CLASS WEBSITE

<http://misterfriend.net>

E-MAIL (BEST METHOD)

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PHONE MAIL

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POSTAL ADDRESS

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