Hillcrest High School
9th Grade Honors
English Language Arts

Course Description
In this course students will focus on gaining proficiency in five major areas: Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening, and Language. Our curriculum is based on the 9th grade English Language Arts Utah state standards and focuses on analysis in all its forms.

Grade Scale
As a 9th grade Honors ELA team, final grades are based on 70% assessment scores and 30% assignment scores. We will use a grade scale which combines both a traditional grading scale as well as a proficiency grading scale as seen in the table below.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>This is the traditional percentage range</th>
<th>=</th>
<th>This is the letter grade</th>
<th>=</th>
<th>This is the proficiency percentage range</th>
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<th>This is the proficiency grade range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93 - 100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>92 - 100</td>
<td>3.75 - 4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>90 - 92</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>86 - 91.9</td>
<td>3.50 - 3.74</td>
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<tr>
<td>87 - 89</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>79 - 85.9</td>
<td>3.25 - 3.49</td>
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<tr>
<td>83 - 86</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>73 - 78.9</td>
<td>3.00 - 3.24</td>
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<td>B-</td>
<td>67 - 72.9</td>
<td>2.75 - 2.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>77 - 79</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>61 - 66.9</td>
<td>2.50 - 2.74</td>
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<tr>
<td>73 - 76</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>48 - 60.9</td>
<td>2.00 - 2.49</td>
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<tr>
<td>70 - 72</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>42 - 47.9</td>
<td>1.75 - 1.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>67 - 69</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<td>1.50 - 1.74</td>
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<tr>
<td>63 - 66</td>
<td>D</td>
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<td>1.25 - 1.49</td>
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<tr>
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<td>D-</td>
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<td>1.00 - 1.24</td>
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<tr>
<td>0 - 59</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0 - 22.9</td>
<td>0.00 - 0.99</td>
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Late Work/ Retake Policy
Students will be permitted to turn in late or missing work throughout a unit of study. Units of study are typically 3-5 weeks long but are determined by the individual teacher.

Deadlines and due dates for major assessments (tests, quizzes, essays, seminars, etc.) within each unit will be maintained, and students are encouraged to turn in work on those dates and not wait until the end of the unit to turn in late or missing work.

Students are responsible for turning work in on time in order to benefit from policies that allow them to revise or improve their work during each unit.

Once a unit is over, missing or late work will not be accepted. Each student will receive vouchers that can be used to submit late or missing work and will be based on the policies implemented by the individual teacher. These vouchers recognize that travel, extracurriculars, and family circumstances occur throughout the year, and are provided to allow students to maintain their grades during those times.

Before the end of each quarter, the teacher will establish final due dates for all work in order to give themselves time to finalize grades. Students will not be allowed to turn in work after those dates.
Course Description
Throughout this year we will be studying many important works of literature to make you better readers, elements of grammar to make you more powerful writers, and skills to prepare you for future college and careers. Through an examination of novels and other smaller texts, grammar, public speaking, etc., we will build your skills as readers, writers, and deep-thinkers.

Students will follow the Hillcrest High School attendance policy. See the entire policy for details and questions.

Academic Grade
Grades are determined on a percentage scale that reflects the effort and achievement of students. The breakdown is as follows:

Assessments: tests, quizzes, papers, projects, etc.
Assignments: practice, reinforcement, and extension of skills discussed in class.
Participation: participating in class activities and discussions, following class rules, and respecting others. Understand that this portion will be lowered due to any tardies, absences, or unauthorized use of electronic devices. Participation points cannot be made up.

A 90-100%
B+ 87-89%
B 80-86%
C+ 77-79%
C 70-76%
D+ 67-69%
D 60-66%
F below 59.9%

Late Work/Retake Policy
Students will be permitted to turn in late or missing work throughout a unit of study. Units of study are typically 3-5 weeks long but are determined by the individual teacher. Units for different elements may overlap.

Deadlines and due dates for major assessments (tests, quizzes, essays, seminars, etc.) within each unit will be maintained, and students are encouraged to turn in work on those dates and not wait until the end of the unit to turn in late or missing work.

Students are responsible for turning work in on time in order to benefit from policies that allow them to revise or improve their work during each unit.

These policies recognize that travel, extracurriculars, and family circumstances occur throughout the year, and are provided to allow students to maintain their grades during those times. Once a unit is over, missing or late work will not be accepted. Each student can submit missing work and will be based on the policies implemented by the individual teacher.
**Cheating:** Students are expected to be honest in their work in this class. If a student is suspected of dishonesty or of plagiarism in completion of any assignment, no credit will be given for assignments in question.
Welcome to Creative Writing!
What is creativity and can it be developed? Does everybody have it? What are the elements of creative writing and how does one enhance or learn it? What does creative writing look like in the real world?
Those are just some of the questions we will explore this semester in Creative Writing. But more importantly, we will write! And we will examine our writing and the writing of peers—and experts—and seek ways to improve our writing and creative thinking.

Course Objectives:
Students will:
Learn about creativity and how to develop their own. Explore various genres of writing and try their hand at each. Analyze various literary devices and develop skills to use those to improve their own writing, increase vocabulary, be challenged to think creatively, critically, and analytically. They will work in cooperation with peers in writing response groups and develop editing skills.

Materials Needed
1. At least 1 folder for loose paper
2. A notebook dedicated to this class.

Class Expectations
Be Here
Be Responsible
Be Respectful
Be Awesome

Grades
The final grades are approximately 70% assessment scores and 30% assignment scores. You will be graded in the following three areas:
Assignment:
First, will be written in your notebook or typed. Second and final drafts will be turned on Canvas. KEEP EVERYTHING. You will be creating a final portfolio at the end of this class. You will need many examples of your work.
Assessments: tests, quizzes, writings, peer edits, and projects
Participation: participating in class activities and discussions that practice the speaking and listening standards.

Grading Scale:
A 90-100%
B+ 87-89%
B 80-86%
C+ 77-79%
C 70-76%
D+ 67-69%
D 60-66%
F below 59.9%

Extra Credit
Occasionally, I will offer extra credit, but it’s at my own discretion and should not be counted on. I do NOT offer extra credit opportunities for students with 0s or poor effort to make up work they should’ve already done.

Late Work:
Students will be permitted to turn in late or missing work throughout a unit of study. Units of study are typically 3-5 weeks long but are determined by the individual teacher. Units for different elements may overlap.

Deadlines and due dates for major assessments (tests, quizzes, essays, seminars, etc.) within each unit will be maintained, and students are encouraged to turn in work on those dates and not wait until the end of the unit to turn in late or missing work.

Students are responsible for turning work in on time in order to benefit from policies that allow them to revise or improve their work during each unit.

These policies recognize that travel, extracurriculars, and family circumstances occur throughout the year, and are provided to allow students to maintain their grades during those times. Once a unit is over, missing or late work will not be accepted. Each student can submit missing work and will be based on the policies implemented by the individual teacher.
Cheating: Students are expected to be honest in their work in this class. If a student is suspected of dishonesty or of plagiarism in completion of any assignment, no credit will be given for assignments in question.

*This disclosure is subject to change at the teacher’s discretion.
Occasionally, film/videos are used in the classroom in order to illustrate a particular curricular-related concept.

I am notifying you that we will be watching films/videos in class with a rating above the G, PG, and PG-13 rating.

Films and videos included Wall-E (2008), Midnight in Paris (2011), and Dead Poets Society (1989)

____ Yes, I give my son/daughter permission to view curriculum and school appropriate film/videos related to classroom content and subjects.

____ No, I do not give my son/daughter permission to view curriculum and school appropriate film/videos mentioned in this letter. I understand alternate learning experiences will be provided for my child while the movie is being watched.

I have received and read the Disclosure Statement for:

Student name __________________________________ Class ______________________

Student signature ____________________________________________

Parent signature: ____________________________________________

Parent’s email address: ________________________________________

Hillcrest High School
Creative Writing 1 & 2
English Language Arts