

# English 9 Course Overview

Content Area: **General**  
Course(s): **ENG 9-A**  
Time Period: **Full Year Course**  
Length: **40 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Course Overview

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English 9 provides broad experiences for students in writing and in literature. Students read a wide range of short and full-length works, representing a variety of literary genres. They apply their understandings of their reading to personal experiences. Writing assignments are based on class reading, instruction, and discussion.

Students participate in small and large group discussion. They receive significant instruction in reading, writing, research, and vocabulary skills. This course will prepare students for the state mandated exam, which measures performance relative to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. Book clubs and independent reading are a supplementary component of the course. These student selected titles encourage the reading of contemporary and modern literature.

## Modifications

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The district has a license for [Learning Ally](#). Learning Ally is an audio book resource for students who are unable to “eye read” grade level text but are able to comprehend when “ear reading” or listening.

## Materials and Resources

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TEXTS:

Various, contemporary non-fiction essays and articles

Various fiction novels and plays include, but are not limited to:

- *Romeo and Juliet*
- *The Odyssey*
- *Of Mice and Men*
- *To Kill a Mockingbird*
- *The Secret Life of Bees*
- *Speak*
- *Into the Wild*
- *Pygmalion*
- *Pride and Prejudice*
- *A Tale of Two Cities*
- *Great Expectations*
- *A Long Way Gone*
- [Book Clubs](#)

RESOURCES: (may include but are not limited to)

- Lenovo ThinkPad/Chromebook
- Canvas: Learning Management System
- Learning Ally
- No Red Ink
- Grammarly
- Common Lit
- Newsela
- OWL at Purdue
- Turnitin

## Content Specific Standards

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LA.L.9-10.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
LA.L.9-10.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
LA.L.9-10.3	Apply knowledge of language to make effective choices for meaning, or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading, writing, speaking or listening.
LA.L.9-10.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 9–10 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
LA.L.9-10.5	Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
LA.L.9-10.6	Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.
LA.W.9-10.1	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
LA.W.9-10.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
LA.W.9-10.3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
LA.W.9-10.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
LA.W.9-10.5	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, trying a new approach, or consulting a style manual (such as MLA or APA Style), focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
LA.W.9-10.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology's capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.
LA.W.9-10.7	Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including

a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

- LA.W.9-10.8 Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation (MLA or APA Style Manuals).
- LA.W.9-10.9 Draw evidence from literary or nonfiction informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- LA.W.9-10.10 Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.
- LA.RI.9-10.1 Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, (e.g., via discussion, written response, etc.) and make relevant connections, to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
- LA.RI.9-10.2 Determine a central idea of a text and analyze how it is developed and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.
- LA.RI.9-10.3 Analyze how the author unfolds an analysis or series of ideas or events, including the order in which the points are made, how they are introduced and developed, and the connections that are drawn between them.
- LA.RI.9-10.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language of a court opinion differs from that of a newspaper).
- LA.RI.9-10.5 Analyze in detail how an author's ideas or claims are developed and refined by particular sentences, paragraphs, or larger portions of a text (e.g., a section or chapter).
- LA.RI.9-10.6 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how an author uses rhetorical devices to advance that point of view or purpose.
- LA.RI.9-10.7 Analyze various perspectives as presented in different mediums (e.g., a person's life story in both print and multimedia), determining which details are emphasized in each account.
- LA.RI.9-10.8 Describe and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is valid and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; identify false statements and reasoning.
- LA.RI.9-10.9 Analyze and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) documents of historical and literary significance, (e.g., Washington's Farewell Address the Gettysburg Address, Roosevelt's Four Freedoms speech, King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail", Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen, U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, etc.), including how they relate in terms of themes and significant concepts.
- LA.RI.9-10.10a By the end of grade 9, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at grade level text-complexity or above with scaffolding as needed.
- LA.RL.9-10.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
- LA.RL.9-10.2 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details and provide an objective summary of the text.
- LA.RL.9-10.3 Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations)

develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

- LA.RL.9-10.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone).
- LA.RL.9-10.5 Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it (e.g., parallel plots), and manipulate time (e.g., pacing, flashbacks) create specific effects (e.g., mystery, tension, or surprise).
- LA.RL.9-10.6 Analyze a particular point of view or cultural experience reflected in a work of literature from outside the United States, drawing on a wide reading of world literature.
- LA.RL.9-10.7 Analyze the representation of a subject or a key scene in two different artistic mediums, including what is emphasized or absent in each work (e.g., Auden's "Musée des Beaux Arts" and Breughel's Landscape with the Fall of Icarus).
- LA.RL.9-10.9 Analyze and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) how an author draws on and transforms source material in a specific work (e.g., how Shakespeare treats a theme or topic from mythology or the Bible or how a later author draws on a play by Shakespeare).
- LA.RL.9-10.10a By the end of grade 9, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems at grade level text-complexity or above with scaffolding as needed.
- LA.SL.9-10.1 Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with peers on grades 9–10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
- LA.SL.9-10.2 Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, qualitatively, orally) evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source.
- LA.SL.9-10.3 Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric, identifying any false reasoning or distorted evidence.
- LA.SL.9-10.4 Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically. The content, organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- LA.SL.9-10.5 Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.
- LA.SL.9-10.6 Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English.
- LA.9-10.W.9-10.1 Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence. Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.

## Interdisciplinary Standards

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- LA.RH.9-10.1 Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, attending to such features as the date and origin of the information.
- LA.RH.9-10.2 Determine the theme, central ideas, key information and/or perspective(s) presented in a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships among the key details and ideas.
- LA.RH.9-10.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including

	vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history and the social sciences; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone.
LA.RH.9-10.6	Compare the point of view of two or more authors in regards to how they treat the same or similar topics, including which details they include and emphasize in their respective accounts.
LA.RST.9-10.4	Determine the meaning of symbols, key terms, and other domain-specific words and phrases as they are used in a specific scientific or technical context relevant to grades 9-10 texts and topics.
SOC.6.1.12.A.10.a	Evaluate the arguments regarding the role of the federal government during the New Deal era.
SOC.6.1.12.D.9.b	Analyze the impact of the Great Depression on the American family, migratory groups, and ethnic and racial minorities.

## **21st Century Life and Career Ready Practice Standards**

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CRP.K-12.CRP4.1	Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas, and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal, and/or visual methods. They communicate in the workplace with clarity and purpose to make maximum use of their own and others' time. They are excellent writers; they master conventions, word choice, and organization, and use effective tone and presentation skills to articulate ideas. They are skilled at interacting with others; they are active listeners and speak clearly and with purpose. Career-ready individuals think about the audience for their communication and prepare accordingly to ensure the desired outcome.
CRP.K-12.CRP6.1	Career-ready individuals regularly think of ideas that solve problems in new and different ways, and they contribute those ideas in a useful and productive manner to improve their organization. They can consider unconventional ideas and suggestions as solutions to issues, tasks or problems, and they discern which ideas and suggestions will add greatest value. They seek new methods, practices, and ideas from a variety of sources and seek to apply those ideas to their own workplace. They take action on their ideas and understand how to bring innovation to an organization.
CRP.K-12.CRP7.1	Career-ready individuals are discerning in accepting and using new information to make decisions, change practices or inform strategies. They use reliable research process to search for new information. They evaluate the validity of sources when considering the use and adoption of external information or practices in their workplace situation.

## **Technology Standards**

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TECH.8.1.12.A.2	Produce and edit a multi-page digital document for a commercial or professional audience and present it to peers and/or professionals in that related area for review.
TECH.8.1.12.A.3	Collaborate in online courses, learning communities, social networks or virtual worlds to discuss a resolution to a problem or issue.
TECH.8.1.12.D.1	Demonstrate appropriate application of copyright, fair use and/or Creative Commons to an original work.

## **Pacing Guide**

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**Anchor Unit**

**Primary Texts**

**Time  
Frame**

Unit A: <i>Tragic Conflicts</i>	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i> by William Shakespeare	6-8 Weeks
Unit B: The Shattered American Dream	<i>Of Mice and Men</i> by John Steinbeck	6-8 Weeks
Unit C: The Journey	<i>The Odyssey</i> by Homer and/or Journey Book Club	10-12 Weeks
Unit D: Self Discovery	<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee or <i>The Secret Life of Bees</i> by Sue Monk Kidd and/or Social Justice Book Club	10-12 Weeks

## **Formative and Summative Assessment**

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Over the course of the school year, English 9 students will complete a minimum of **four (4) literary analysis prompts, two (2) narrative prompts, and two (2) synthesis prompts**. Writing assignments will range from short pieces completed in class to longer 2-3 page process papers completed out of class over an extended period of time. Students in English 9 will be expected to read and write both in class and at home. They will be assessed on their knowledge of the core and supplementary texts through reading check quizzes and in class and online discussions. Students writing skills be assessed using our department rubrics.

## **Grading Procedures and Evaluation**

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### **GRADING PROCEDURES**

Marking period grades are determined by dividing the total number of points earned by the total number of potential points. More intense and involved assessments are worth more points and therefore have a greater effect on a student's grade. Formal and informal writing assignments, responses to text and reading quizzes are frequently assigned.

The department's goal for every course is that a minimum of 95% of the pupils will meet at least the minimum proficiency level (D or better) set for the course. The department will analyze the achievement of students on Unit Assessments, Mid-term and Final Exams and Final Course Grades, and for Final Course Grades the achievement of sub-groups identified by the state to determine if modifications in the curriculum and instructional methods are needed.

In terms of proficiency level the East Brunswick grades equate to:

A	Excellent	Advanced Proficient
B	Good	Above Average Proficient
C	Fair	Proficient
D	Poor	Minimally proficient
F	Failing	Partially Proficient

	Marking Period 1	Marking Period 2	Marking Period 3	Marking Period 4
<b>Homework</b>	10%	10%	10%	10%
<b>Assessments</b>	90%	90%	80%	90%
<b>Performance</b>	-	-	10%	-

**Other Information**

**COURSE NAME: ENGLISH 9**

**SCED: 01001 English/Language Arts (9th Grade)**

Course #	School #'s	Course Level	Grade(s)	Credits	Min. Per Week	Elective Or Required	Initial Course Adopted
<b>2015</b>	<b>055</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>Required</b>	<b>04/21/1986</b>