

GERALDTON COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL
2008 – 2009
English, Grade 9, Applied (ENG 1P) – COURSE OUTLINE

Teacher: Mr. S. Wilson

Feb. 2009 – June 2009

February 2, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I am your child's teacher for the Grade Nine Applied English course and I wanted to make you aware of some classroom and school-wide policies. I have included some day-to-day housekeeping issues below so that you are aware of my expectations. Please take the time to go over this course outline with your son or daughter to ensure they understand the requirements outlined below.

Students have a due date for assignments and will be provided with a reasonable amount of time to complete their work. If conflicts arise due to unforeseen circumstances it is expected that students or parents will communicate with the school as soon as possible. If a student is absent for any reason, I expect that the student will be responsible to find out what lessons and/or assignments were missed when they return. I am available most days during the lunchtime activity period to provide extra help and to provide a time to catch up on missed work.

Students are expected to be on time for class, with all required books and materials, ready for the day's work. Students arriving late are expected to get a late slip from the attendance office. Students arriving late for class more than three (3) times will be subject to the provisions of the school late policy. Prior to this, students may be counseled as to the importance of being on time for class, may serve detentions and will be required to catch up on missing work.

The first Progress Report is scheduled for mid-March followed by a Parent's Night. At this time I will indicate how your child's progress is in each of the four Achievement Categories by providing them with a level along with a report on Learning Skills.

The Midterm Report Card will be sent home in mid-April, which will be comprised of a mark, along with another report on Learning Skills. The second Progress Report will follow in May.

If you have any questions at all during the semester regarding your son or daughter's progress, please feel free to call me at the school at 854-0130.

In addition I invite you and your child to regularly visit the class website, www.wilsonteacher.ca to find copies of assignments, a calendar and resources to assist with the course.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Mr. S. Wilson.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

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Curriculum Policy: The Ontario Curriculum: English, 2000

Prerequisite: Grade 8

Credit Value: 1.0

Text: Elements of English 9. Harcourt 2001.

Rumble Fish

- Additional resources and materials will be used throughout the course from a variety of sources including print, video and the Internet

Rationale:

This course emphasizes key reading, writing, oral language, and thinking skills that students need for success in secondary schools and their daily lives. Students will study plays, short stories, and newspaper and magazine articles, and will describe and create media works. An important focus will be the correct use of spoken and written language.

EVALUATION:

Type of Assessment	Category	Details	Weighting (%)
Formative (70%)	Knowledge/Understanding	Tests/Quizzes, In-class assignments	20
	Thinking/Inquiry	Tests/Quizzes, Essays, Creative Writing, In-class assignments	15
	Application	Tests/Quizzes, Major assignments and unit culminating tasks, In-class assignments	20
	Communication	Tests/Quizzes, In-class assignments; oral presentations	15
Summative (30%)	Final Assessment	Final Exam	30
		Total (%)	100

In addition, students will be assessed and evaluated through journal and notebook checks, self and peer evaluation, rubrics, presentations and classroom observation.

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LEARNING SKILLS:

Students will also be evaluated with respect to the following learning skills:

- Works Independently
- Teamwork
- Organization
- Work Habits
- Initiative

This evaluation will be in the form of a letter designation as follows:

E=Excellent **G**=Good **S**=Satisfactory **N**=Needs Improvement

UNITS:

Unit Number	Unit Title	Unit Length (Approx.)
Unit 1	Short Stories & Essay Writing	4 weeks (30 hours)
Unit 2	The Novel: <i>Rumble Fish</i>	4 weeks (30 hours)
Unit 3	Poetry & Dramatic Writing	3 weeks (20 hours)
Unit 4	Media Studies & Technical Writing	2 weeks (15 hours)
Unit 5	Grammar and Writing Development	Ongoing
Unit 6	Reading and Communication Development	Ongoing

SPECIFIC EXPECTATIONS:

- Students are expected to maintain a binder and notes organized according to their teacher's instructions. Students are also expected to be on time for class with all required books and materials, ready for the day's work. Students arriving late, (more than 20 minutes), are expected to get a late slip from the office. Students may be responsible for making up time lost due to lateness in the form of detentions. Students who are habitually late will be subject to the school's late policy.
- A student returning to class after any absence is expected to have an admit slip issued by the attendance office prior to the start of class. Exceptions are given due to school-related events, no buses due to weather or absences authorized by an outslip.
- **Students who miss class are expected to get that day's assignment from another student or the teacher on their own.** If you know that you are going to be absent, let the teacher know in advance to try and avoid problems.

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LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY:

Students are given a fair and reasonable amount of time to complete assignments. Major assignments will be assigned a due date and a closure date, which will be three days after the due date. This will be the final date that the assignment may be submitted for evaluation. I am available in my room to provide extra assistance as required during the lunchtime Activity Period, (12:05 – 12:30).

SILENT READING:

As literacy is a major focus within the school, it is important for students to read on a regular basis. As such, students are required to bring in a novel for the in-class silent reading component of the course. This novel, (which is the student's choice but must be approved by the teacher), should be brought to class every day. Students have the opportunity to borrow books from either the school or community library if none are available at home.

CONCLUSIONS:

I look forward to a productive and successful term. If you have any questions at all during the semester regarding the course or progress, please feel free to contact me through the school at 854-0130. If e-mail is more convenient, I can be reached via my work address: swilson@sgdsb.on.ca or through the course website at www.wilsonteacher.ca

Once again, I appreciate your taking the time to read through this Course Outline.

Sincerely,

Mr. S. Wilson