

# English

9th Grade

2022-2023

---

## Contact Me:

[cpedrow@psusd.us](mailto:cpedrow@psusd.us)

web:

Room 363

760-202-6455 Ext. 2363

## Welcome to OUR Class!

I am excited to be your English teacher this year and to help you grow in your reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. I look forward to working with you to strengthen your skills and confidence as you work toward being college and career ready.

## Class Materials

Students should come to class with the following items daily:

- Charged Chromebook
- Pen/pencil
- Paper
- An Open Mind
- A Positive Attitude
- A Willingness to Learn

## Technology in the classroom

We will use the following websites/software regularly on school devices:

- Google Apps (Classroom, Docs, Slides, and Drive)
- FlipGrid
- Padlet
- Listenwise

Students should remember to follow all school policies for appropriate technology use.

Cell phone use is **not** allowed during class time. (See cell phone policy.)

## Behavior Expectations

Students will adhere to the following conduct in the classroom:

- Be Prepared
- Be Prompt
- Be Positive
- Be Productive
- Be Polite

These behaviors will not only help students succeed in the classroom, but also in life! I have a positive, strengths based, and mutually respectful classroom. Therefore, **I reward academic success and appropriate behaviors.** If a student displays inappropriate or disruptive behaviors during class time, I will follow the discipline procedures outlined in the student handbook.

## Text/Curriculum

We will be studying a variety of literary and informational texts this year, including but not limited to: short stories, novels, speeches, plays, poetry, news articles, and more!

## Student Supports:

Parents/guardians can support their students in the following ways:

- Review your student's homework sheet and assignments and check for completion periodically.
- Use [StudentVue](#) to check on your student's grades
- Communicate concerns to me directly or call the school at 760-202-6455 and leave a message. I will get back to you as soon as possible.
- E-mail me at [cpedrow@psusd.us](mailto:cpedrow@psusd.us)
- Sign up for text message reminders from the class (see Google classroom)

**Lunch Tutoring:**

Is available during lunch, Tuesday -Thursday, by appointment. Students must email me to schedule a tutoring appointment. Encourage your student to access this support as necessary.

**Academic Integrity:**

All students must display academic integrity and do their own work. Students involved in *cheating* (or enabling someone else to cheat) or *plagiarizing* will **automatically receive a zero on the assignment**. Students who cheat or plagiarize will not be able to make up the points. They will not be given a substitute/alternate assignment.

*Cheating* is defined as obtaining or attempting to obtain, or aiding another to obtain credit for work, or any improvement in evaluation of performance, by any dishonest or deceptive means.

*Plagiarizing* is defined as the act of using the ideas or work of another person or persons as if they were one's own without giving proper credit to the source.

**Grading Categories:**

All assignments are point based, not weighted. Graded assignments will fall into one of the following categories: reading, writing, speaking, listening, classroom participation, exams. Additionally, students will complete state required tests each quarter. These tests are used to measure a student's progress toward the state standards in English Language Arts.

**Grading Scale:**

A+: 97 and above

A: 94-96

A-: 90-93

B+: 87-89

B: 84-86

B-: 80-83

C+: 77-79

C: 74-76

C-: 70-73

D+: 67-69

D: 64-66

D-: 60-63

F: 59 and below

(A student who earns an F will not receive credit.)

**Grading:**

I will update the electronic grade book on Wednesday of each week. Students are responsible for keeping track of their grades on StudentVue.

**Late Work:**

Most *online* assignments are due by midnight, and most *hard copy* assignments are due at the beginning of the period. Due dates/times will always be included with assignment instructions and posted in Google Classroom. Assignments turned in late will lose 10% for every day they are late.

No late work will be accepted after 10 calendar days.

Students who miss class for scheduled school activities (sports, performing arts, etc...) must meet the same assignment deadlines as other students and turn in assignments that are due before a scheduled event. **Participation in a school activity does not extend the due date.**

**Make-up Work:**

If a student is absent it is their responsibility to find out what work they missed. Check Google classroom, email me, or talk to me before/after class, not during class time.

Make up work from an excused absence receives full credit if made up within one school day after the student returns to class, except in cases where the deadline was preassigned.

Students who have an absence longer than five days are allowed one school day per day of absence to make up work for full credit.

Students who know in advance they will be absent longer than five days should request independent study through the office.

Students should discuss any gradebook discrepancies as soon as possible.

**Extra Credit:**

Students are given ample opportunities to achieve success through the completion of regular assignments, tests, and other activities. Any extra-credit given is at the sole discretion of the teacher.

**Syllabus acknowledgement:**

The student is to **keep the first two (2) pages of this syllabus** in their binder so that it can be reviewed as needed. Once the student and parent/guardian have read over this syllabus, please sign I have your student return this page to Ms. Pedrow. By signing, the student and the parent/guardian are acknowledging that the student does **agree to abide by all course policies contained in the syllabus.**

**Print Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents:** Please sign indicating you are aware that your student is agreeing to the course policies attached

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

# *Cell Phone Policy* (Must be signed by student and parent/guardian.)

Recent studies have found that banning mobile phones in the classroom leads to an increase in student performance. Students experienced a serious disruption to their education because of Covid and Zoom School; therefore, focusing in class and paying attention is more important than ever.

If a student is observed using their cell phone during class, they will be politely asked to go park their phone in the holder until the end of the class period. They will **not** be embarrassed or scolded in front of their classmates. The pockets of the phone holder are transparent, so students can keep an eye on their phone during class. No one else will have access to the student's cell phone. Once the phone is in the holder, students may not access their phone for the rest of the class period. Students will be able to retrieve their phone from the holder at the end of the class period.

## **Student Agreement:**

By signing and dating the line below, you as the **student** are agreeing that you will abide by this Cell Phone Policy for the entire 2022-2023 school year. You will follow this protocol and will put your cell phone in the holder immediately when asked by Ms. Pedrow. You will not argue, negotiate, or be disrespectful when asked to place your cell phone in the holder.

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Parent/Guardian Agreement:**

By signing and dating the line below, you as the **parent/guardian** are agreeing that your student will abide by this policy for the entire 2022-2023 school year. You are giving Ms. Pedrow permission to enforce this cell phone policy with your student. I will only ask your student to place their phone in the holder; I will not be touching the student's cell phone. By signing below, you are giving Ms. Pedrow permission to assign further consequences (parent conferences, detentions, written referrals, etc.) if your student does not comply with this policy.

**Your Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions about this or other classroom policies, please feel free to contact me at [cpedrow@psusd.us](mailto:cpedrow@psusd.us)