

COURSE EXPECTATIONS  
*Freshman English 2018-19*  
*Mrs. Marybeth Tavares*  
*mtavares@northstonington.k12.ct.us*  
*Room 125*

**Course Overview:**

Freshman English is a full-year course that will introduce and build upon the fundamentals and techniques of expository research-based writing. Basic structural grammar and logical thought will be stressed. The study of new vocabulary is incorporated throughout the course. Freshman English is designed to introduce the short story, the novel, drama, poetry, and non-fiction through the reading of significant writings of authors.

**Although all 9<sup>th</sup> grade Common Core standards will be addressed, emphasis will be placed upon:**

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.1](#) Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10.2](#) Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.2b](#) Develop the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.1a](#) Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.9-10.2](#) Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

**Possible Readings (various short stories, memoirs, poems, films, and song lyrics will also be introduced):**

<i>The Girl Who Was Supposed to Die</i>	<i>Raisin in the Sun</i>	<i>Of Mice and Men</i>	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
<i>The Hate U Give</i>	<i>Snitch</i>	<i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i>	

**Material Required:**

2-3 inch binder                      pens/pencils                      highlighter

**Classroom Expectations:**

You are expected to be honest, considerate, tolerant, and willing learners.

You are expected to come to every class, on time, prepared, and to participate actively and enthusiastically in all class activities, discussions and group work. Participating also means being well prepared for class, listening attentively to one another as well as to me, and behaving

**Grading/Classroom Policy:**

- Grading will be completed on a point system. Your final grade will be based off the points you earned out of the total points for the quarter/semester/year. You will know how many points each assignment will be upon receipt.
- I will assign and collect homework most days. I will accept late homework and late assignments for partial credit – at my discretion. If there are extreme circumstances that present themselves, please talk to me ASAP! As a warning: I will not chase after you if you fail to hand in your work. You are now in high school and your grade is YOUR responsibility.
- Quizzes and tests will be taken on the day that they are assigned, for there will be advanced warning. A student will only be excused from taking an assessment on the day it is planned if he/she has had a lengthy absence. If absent on the day of the assessment, the student may be asked to take it the next day or after school. If it is not taken within a reasonable time (normally one class week), the grade will become a zero.
- Class participation is essential. Students should be able to exhibit oral knowledge of homework and reading.
- Extra Credit Projects are not policy and will not be given to boost grade averages.

**Homework Grades Explanation:**

Check plus, plus is a 100% Check plus is a 90% Check is an 80% Check minus is a 70% Sloppy, incomplete, or careless work will not receive credit.

**Wheeler High School Academic Expectations met by this course:**

- Analysis
- Literacy
- Communication
- Collaboration

**Teacher Availability for Extra Help:**

After school extra help will be given by appointment. Students will be encouraged to use study halls or break time for extra-help if they cannot stay after school.

Looking forward to a great year. Feel free to contact me at the school by e-mail with any questions or comments.

Thank you,

*Mrs. Marybeth Tavares*

**Freshman English**

Please complete the information on this page. Then sign and return.

**Student Section:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read this class syllabus and promise to adhere to it.

Student Comments:

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Guardian Section:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ have read the class syllabus and understand all classroom policies. I will encourage my child to do the best he/she can this school year.

Parent/ Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Best Time to be reached \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: