# Academic English 9

*Ringgold High School • 2014-15*

# Ms. Baertsch

*rbaertsch@ringgold.org*
*Room 208*

## URGENT!! DO THESE THINGS BEFORE SIGNING!

1. Go to http://baertsch.weebly.com/
   This is our class website. Most assignments will be available here. Please bookmark it as a favorite and check it often.
2. Please sign up (both you and your parent/ guardian) for text/email reminders of deadlines and assignments. Either text the code "@msbaert" to 228-222-5663 or sign up online at https://www.remind.com/join/msbaert.
3. Make sure you have working access to the school's Parent Portal. Important information about your performance will be communicated only through the portal. If you do not have access, a parent or guardian must contact your guidance counselor **immediately** to gain access.
4. Know that you may contact me anytime at rbaertsch@ringgold.org to discuss any concerns or ask any questions.

*\* Communication between school and home is vital to our success. Failure to set up these communication avenues could hinder your ability to succeed.*

## Course overview and objectives

Ninth grade students focus on analytical reading and writing techniques. You will evaluate ideas, specific claims, and reasoning in a variety of rhetoric, always supporting your analysis with textual evidence. In addition, you will learn to identify and correct fallacious arguments and false claims. Students spend considerable time evaluating rhetoric and analyzing how an argument unfolds. Students acquire and use with independence academic- and domain-specific words at the college and career readiness level.

## Materials Needed DAILY
★ **Charged** Chromebook
★ 1" Binder with pockets
★ Pencil/Pen/Highlighter

*\* If you are present in class, but missing one of the above items, you may be unable to complete that day's work. You will then be required to complete all missed work by the next day to avoid late penalties.*

## Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Students and faculty alike must obey rules of honest scholarship, which means that all academic work should result from an individual's own effort. Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism) and aiding in dishonesty will result in consequences according to the *RHS Handbook.*

## Deadline Policy

★ Classwork - You will be permitted to take in-class work home if you need extended time. In all cases, it will be due the following day to avoid late penalties and must be turned in with a completed "I need more time!" form. Forms are available in the classroom..

★ Homework - Due in class the day after it is assigned. If you are absent on the due date, it is due the day you return. You may not go to your locker to retrieve assignments, but you may drop them in my room later that same day.

★ Projects - Deadlines are set in advance. If you are absent during the "working period" of a large assignment, you will be given extra time only if we worked on the project in class while you were out.

*\* If you are absent from class for an excused reason, please also refer to the RHS Handbook for deadline policies. Extensions will not be granted for unexcused absences. The policies above refer only to excused absences. OSS work is due on the day of your return to school. ISS work is due at the end of the same day. Late penalties will be deducted from the earned grade for all late work.*

## Behavior Policy

Behavioral expectations are predicated on a single concept: **Respect.**

★ Respect yourself by doing your best work. Never refuse to at least try.

★ Respect our classroom by behaving with manners. Disruptions to the learning environment will not be tolerated.

*\* This policy pertains to both teacher and students.*

# Tentative Class Schedule

## Module 1

- *Please Stop Laughing at Me* - Jodee Blanco
- Evaluating and creating logical arguments
- Argumentative Research Project
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* - Harper Lee
- Poetry connection
- Analyzing seminal U.S. documents

*Essential Question: How do our perceptions of reality impact our moral, legal and human responsibilities and influence our actions?*

## Module 2

- *Romeo and Juliet* - Shakespeare
- Analyzing complex characters
- Thematic informational texts
- Comparison of mediums

*Essential Question: How do our perceptions of reality and outside influences impact our relationships and decisions?*

## Module 3

- *Unwind* - Neal Shusterman
- Informational writing
- Poetry connection
- Thematic informational texts

*Essential Question: What impact does current scientific research have on long held societal beliefs?*

## Module 4

- *The Book Thief - Markus Zusak*
- Function of rhetoric
- Argumentative writing
- Poetry connection
- Analyzing seminal U.S. documents

*Essential Question: How do stereotypes, misconceptions and prejudices impact the way one interacts with and understand others?*

## Module 5

- *The Glass Menagerie –* Tennessee Williams
- Poetry connection
- Argumentative Research Project
- Narrative writing

*Essential Question: How do perceptions of beauty influence our understanding of ourselves and the world around us?*

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*Please sign below and return syllabus by Wed.*

### STUDENT PROMISE

★ I certify that I have read this document completely and understand the information contained. I have also reviewed this information with my parent(s)/guardian(s).

★ I have taken the time to complete the URGENT steps in the box on the first page.

★ I promise to do my best to follow these rules and procedures at all times, and I understand the consequences of failure to comply.

**Name:**

_____
(Please print legibly)

_____
(Please sign legibly)

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*The syllabus will be available all year on the class website.*

### PARENT/GUARDIAN PROMISE

★ I certify that I have read this document completely and understand the information contained. I have also reviewed this information with my student..

★ I have taken the time to complete the URGENT steps in the box on the first page.

★ I know how to contact Ms. Baertsch at any time with any concerns that may arise and will not hesitate to communicate with the school.

**Name:**

_____
(Please print legibly)

_____
(Please sign legibly)