

**Calvine High School**  
**English Syllabus 2008/09**  
**Rhonda Franke, Teacher – room 6**  
**(916) 689-7502 - rfranke@egusd.net**

Welcome parents and students to Calvine High School's English program. In addition to passing the High School Exit Exam, students must complete a total of 40 high school credits of English to receive a high school diploma. Through completion of in-class and homework assignments, students can meet their needed number of credits in this subject. The curriculum engages students in a variety of listening, reading, writing, and speaking activities in addition to strategies that lead them through informational and narrative texts.

### **Course Content**

In class, students will be using Holt Literature and Language Arts for reading and writing assignments, The Holt Interactive Reader, a workbook to supplement reading instruction, and The Holt Handbook for grammar instruction. These textbooks will remain in the classroom at all times. For homework assignments, students will be asked to choose a novel to read or a movie to review. Guidelines for the written book report or movie review will be given to students on the first day of class. Students must receive teacher approval of the book or movie they choose before beginning the assignment. Up to one credit (12 hours) of homework can be earned for an excellent book report, and up to one-half credit (6 hours) can be earned for a well-done movie review.

## **Classroom Expectations**

1. Be on time.
2. Be prepared.
3. Show respect for all.
4. Take responsibility.
5. Be on task.
6. Listen attentively.

Students work toward earning credits by attending class on time and working productively. It is not enough to just “show up.” If a student refuses to work or disturbs class with off-task behavior, he/she will not receive credit for that day's work. Consequences for not meeting class expectations will begin with a verbal warning and progress to a referral to administration if the behavior does not improve. No class credit will be given for days absent from class.

## **Course Work**

Course work will include daily warm ups, narrative and informational readings, vocabulary development, grammar exercises, essays, and oral presentations. All course work is aligned with the English Power Standards. Elk Grove Unified School District chose these standards as the ones essential for students’ success on the High School Exit Exam and most useful in their future careers.

## **Closing Thoughts for Parents**

Please take the time to talk with your student daily about what he/she has learned. This is a wonderful way to connect with your student and learn about all the things that are going on at school. Positive interaction between parents and teachers strengthen the feeling of support all children need for success in school. My goal is to create an atmosphere of open communication regarding your student’s academic progress and behavior at school. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me anytime at 689-7502.

I am very excited about this year and all that we will learn together from one another. I look forward to meeting you at Back to School Night on Monday, September 22, 6:00-7:00 P.M. Together, we can make this a successful year for your student.

Sincerely,  
Rhonda Franke – English teacher

Parent/Guardian: The return of this letter is a homework assignment for your student. I have read this syllabus and discussed it with my son/daughter.

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Printed name of student

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Student signature

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Printed name of parent / guardian

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Parent / guardian signature

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Home phone

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Work phone

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Email address