**Guide to Decoding My Gradebook**

**What is Outcomes-Based Grading?**

Outcomes-Based Grading is designed to be a more accurate, more informative style of grade reporting. Each curriculum outcome is included my gradebook, rather than a series of tasks. This helps to identify areas of strength and weakness easily, which aid students’ progress and helps to create better study habits. It also enables me to individualize instruction for students.

**How do you read my gradebook?**

Each grade in my gradebook will be titled differently than you are used to seeing. The start of each task will have a decimal number that denotes the specific outcome in the curriculum that I am assessing, along with the name of the assignment behind it. An assignment may assess multiple outcomes, so you may see the same assignment with a different decimal number in front.

I have the grades divided up based on the different types of outcomes: Comprehend and Respond (40%), Compose and Create (40%), and Assess and Reflect (20%). Within each of these units, there are three categories: Whole Unit Assessments (35%), In-Unit Assessments (50%), and CFD (15%). Whole Unit Assessments encompass larger pieces, such as exams and projects. In-Unit Assessment encompasses smaller pieces, such as assignments, quizzes, and mini-projects.

**What can you learn from this?**

The majority of in-unit assignments are assessed out of five. See the attached rubrics for more information. Each rubric corresponds with the three major outcomes in the ELA 9 curriculum. Because of this, it is easier to identify areas of strength and weakness.

**What if I bomb a task?**

I strongly believe that a grade reflects how much a student understands by the end of the semester. Therefore, it is not as important when the learning happens, so long as it does. I do have deadlines and due dates, but I allow students to rewrite any task at any time in the semester, so long as the student does not have any incomplete tasks.

**What if I am absent?**

Should you miss a task, it is **your responsibility** to make up the task on your own time. Until that time, it will show as Not Handed In (NHI) in my gradebook.

**So what does my mark actually mean?**

Your mark reflects your mastery of the standards set out by the grade nine ELA curriculum.