AHS English Department Syllabus – Fall 2018

Honors 9th Literature

Mrs. Brandy Forbes

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**Course Description**

**Honors 9th Literature** is an accelerated college prep course designed for the student who has a serious interest in the interpretation of

literature. It integrates writing, grammar and usage, speaking and listening. It includes reading a variety of

literary genres: short stories, novels, poetry, drama, and nonfiction. It also emphasizes oral and written response to

literature.

Required Texts

**Textbook**

SpringBoard English Language Arts Grade 9. This is a consumable workbook that students will be allowed to write in, and at the end of the semester take home. During the semester the book will be stored in the classroom. Students will also have access to an online version of the textbook. Also, students are asked (not required) to purchase a copy of Night by Elie Wiesel and Lord of the Flies by William Golding.

**School Rules and Classroom Expectations**

Students are expected to adhere to all school rules that are outlined in the AHS agenda. The expectations for Mrs. Forbes’ classroom are as follows:

1. Be in your seat and prepared to learn, with all necessary materials, when the bell rings.

2. Be respectful to your peers, your teachers and school property.

3. Water and snacks are allowed (as long as they do not become a distraction). No food from the café. NO GUM.

4. Contribute to our class in a meaningful way.

Consequences:

1. Verbal Warning

2. Detention

3. Parent Contact

4. Discipline Referral

Cell Phone Policy

Cell phones may not be used in class unless the teacher has given specific permission and they are being used for a specific academic purpose assigned by the teacher. If a student violates this policy and has a phone out (visible) and/or if the phone rings (not on silent) he/she will face the following consequences:

1st offense – verbal warning

2nd offense – phone will be collected and sent to the main office – a parent must come to the school to pick up

3rd offense - phone will be collected and sent to the main office – a parent must come to the school to pick up AND a referral to administration

**Grading Scale**

A 90-100 B 80-89 C 74-79 D 70-73 F Below 70

**Grading Categories**

* Formative Assessments (practice work, daily grades, quizzes) 30%
* Summative Assessments (unit tests, projects, essays) 50%
* Georgia Milestone Test 20%

**Make-up Policies and Late Work**

* When absent, students are to make-up or make arrangements to make up missed assignments with the teacher the day they return.
* Long-term assignments and major projects are **due on the due date regardless of the student’s absence**.
* A “0” will be recorded for any grade that is awaiting make-up or late credit. After the grading period ends, a permanent zero will be recorded in Synergy.
* Late work may be turned in for ½ credit ( ½ of the actual grade earned) for up to 5 days from the assignment due date.  A zero will be recorded in the gradebook until the assignment is turned in.  On the 6th day, if the assignment is still not turned in, no credit will be awarded for the assignment.

**Do-over/ Reassessment policy**

Grade recovery opportunities will be offered on summative assessments in each class. The highest grade a student may earn on a grade recovery attempt is a **70%**.

Students may participate in recovery only if they have….

* Attempted the summative assessment (they turned it in).
* Failed the assessment (earned a grade below a 70%)
* Initiated the recovery process (It is the student’s responsibility to initiate the recovery attempt and complete all requirements including the reassessment within the two week window.)
* Completed remediation task assigned by teacher (additional written work, tutoring, research, etc.) prior to reassessment.

Remediation task and reassessment must be completed within two weeks of receiving a failing summative grade. Students participating in recovery may be asked to complete remediation task and/or reassessment before school, after school, or during class time at the discretion of the teacher.

**TUTORING**

Wednesdays – 3:30-4:00, Fridays - 7:45-8:15

**BLOG and REMIND**

My blog will be updated weekly and can be found by clicking on my name under the English department on the Allatoona website. If you have a question and do not find the answer on my blog, please feel free to email me. I use the REMIND app **frequently** to keep students up to date and aware of upcoming assignments. Please see the attached flyer to get signed up to receive these messages.

**\*\*\*PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY FRIDAY, 8/10/2018\*\***

**Movies**

Throughout the semester, I will be using film to enhance and reinforce the curriculum. Most movies will be shown in clips of 30 minutes or less in class. However, there may be times when more than 30 minutes are shown. **Please note that movies are approved by the teacher, the department chair, and the English department administrator.**

**The following movies will be used in this class. Please review the list and sign below to indicate that you approve of your child viewing the films.**

*Dead Poet’s Society* – PG

*The Odyssey –* PG-13

*William Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet (Luhrmann Production)* – PG-13

*Romeo and Juliet (Zeffirelli Production 1968 version)* – Not rated

*O Brother Where Art Thou* –PG-13

*The Lord of the Flies* (1963) Not Rated

*Great Expectations* (Masterpiece Theater version) – Not rated

In addition, other short video clips (Ted Talks, commercials, non-movie video clips) will be used during the semester to enhance the understanding of literature and relevant concepts. Each of the films and video clips will be tied to academic standards. Students are not required to watch any video that does not adhere to the beliefs or values taught in the home. A different assignment for educational enhancement will be assigned. The assignment will be equal to the length of time utilized for the video or clips. Please complete the attached permission form concerning the films/videos for this class. Feel free to e-mail if you have a concern about your child watching films or video clips.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to view the above films in class.

**(Student name)**

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**Parent Signature Date**

**Please sign below indicating that you have read the course syllabus and are aware of my expectations and return this form to me by Friday 8/10/2018. A copy of this syllabus is posted on my blog for your reference.**

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

**Parent Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**