**9th Grade Literature and Composition**

**Carolyn Flis and Alex Roll-Mitchell**

**2018– 2019**

**Class Website: https://mhs9english.weebly.com**

**\*The best way to contact your teacher is via email. We have limited access to voicemail.**

**Please allow at least 24 hours for a response to non-emergency emails.**

**Classroom Expectations**

* Be respectful to others.  This includes teachers, staff, other students, parents and visitors.
* We are a learning community.  Therefore, use language that encourages learning and shows your respect for others.  Bullying and inappropriate language will not be tolerated.
* Respect class time.  Complete all assignments on time.  Come prepared to learn and to contribute to class discussions.
* All maintenance activities need to be completed before class begins.  This includes pencil sharpening, using the restroom, and visiting your locker.
* Cell phones and other electronic items are not permitted in class.  You are responsible for securing them in a safe location during class time.
* Respect property.  This includes your own materials, other’s materials, and the teacher’s materials.  Ask permission to use any materials that are not yours.
* Listen carefully to directions. Ask questions if you do not understand something.

**Course Description**

Ninth Grade Literature and Composition will continue to build on the reading and language curriculum established in middle school. Throughout this course, students will have opportunities to develop and expand their knowledge of literature and language and demonstrate their mastery level of new learning through a variety of performance tasks and assessments. At the completion of this course, students will take a final exam.

**Textbook Info**

* Title*: Prentice Hall Literature – 9th Grade Edition*
* Publisher: Prentice Hall

Each student has access to the online textbook. You will not need to check it out from the media hub unless you want a personal copy.

**Prospective Novels/Book Clubs**

*Animal Farm*

*Fahrenheit 451*

*Romeo and Juliet*

*The Odyssey*

The following texts are found in the online textbook:

*Oedipus Rex*

*Antigone*

Assorted Short Stories

Assorted Poetry

Please hold off on purchasing any texts until the unit begins.

**Grading Scale**

A 90 and Above  
B 80-89  
C 70-79  
F 69 and Below **1st sem. 2nd sem.**

* Formal Formative Assessments: quizzes, graded homework, graded assignments 35 % 35%
* Summative Assessments (projects, tests, essays) 50 % 45%
* Final Exam (first semester exam, year-long cumulative exam) 15 % 20 %
* Pre-Assessment (diagnostic, participation, preparedness, informal formative) 0% 0%

(Ninth Grade Literature courses take the state-mandated End of Course Test at the end of second semester, which accounts for 20% of the second semester average.)

**Graded Formative Assessments and Summative Assessment Late Policy**

**\*\*\*Student work is considered late if it is not ready to be turned in at the start of class.**

Any work collected and graded for accuracy will not be accepted late. In-class Formal Formative Assessments will be graded on the day it occurs and grades of “0” will be awarded to students who do not participate in the in-class gradable activity. Additionally, homework assignments will not be accepted late. Late Summative Assessments (projects, papers and tests) and all non-homework Formal Formative Assessments will be accepted after the due date but will be deducted 10 points. Late work cannot be turned in for credit after the 3rd day. However, tests and quizzes must be taken on the day they are scheduled unless the student is absent. **A “0” will be used as a place holder for missed assessments.**

**Recovery Policy**

Opportunities designed to allow students to recover from a failing summative grade (below a 70%) will be allowed when **all work required to date** has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance. Students seeking recovery must contact teachers via email to schedule an appointment to discuss recovery opportunities. All recovery work must be directly related to course objectives andmust be completed ten school days prior to the end of the semester and will be given a grade no higher than 70%. Teachers will determine when and how students with extenuating circumstances may improve their grades.

**Help Hours**

I am available mornings or after school ***by appointment***whenever help is needed.  **Students** should email me and receive confirmation of a set appointment as soon as possible for extra help, make-up work, grade concerns, etc.

**Tardy Policy**

Please refer to the school policy.

**Plagiarism**

Cases of cheating and/or plagiarism are handled in accordance with Milton policy.  Plagiarism is the use of another’s words or ideas and the presentation of them as though they are entirely one’s own.  Acts of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, the following actions: (1) using words or ideas from a published source without proper documentation; (2) using the work of another student (i.e. copying another student’s homework, composition, or project; (3) using excessive editing suggestions of another student, teacher, parent, or paid editor.  Unless directly stipulated by the teacher, collaboration on written work is not acceptable.  Students who willingly provide other students with access to their work are in violation of the Milton Honor Code.  In order to avoid plagiarism, the student must document all sources consulted or used in the preparation of a document or presentation.  This includes sources from the Internet.

If you are caught cheating on *any* assignment, the incident will be reported to the administration and your parents. Additionally, you will receive a “0” on the assignment.  If you see or hear of anyone cheating, it is your duty to report it.

**Attendance and Make-Up Policy**

* Making up work due to an absence is the responsibility of the student.
* You have the number of days that you were absent to make-up the assignment.  (Example:  If you are absent for one day then you have one day to complete the missed work).
* If you are absent on test day, come see me immediately to schedule a time for you to take the test. In most cases, you will be expected to take the test the day of your return.
* **Students absent on the DAY BEFORE an announced test will be expected to take the test with the class.**
* Failure to complete make-up work in accordance with the policies set forth in the syllabus will result in a ‘0’.
* Students who are present for any part of the day are expected to turn in assignments that are due on that day.  It is the student’s responsibility to turn in the assignment to the teacher.
* Make up work due to an absence is the responsibility of the student and must be handled outside of class time. Check website for missed handouts or contact a peer.
* A “0” will be used as a place holder for missed assessments whether the absence is excused or unexcused.

**Georgia Standards of Excellence** (From the Georgia Department of Education website):

The ninth and tenth grade Common Core Georgia Performance Standards are broken up into four major categories:  Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, and Language.  Content and instruction all year long will be geared towards student mastery in these four areas.  A complete list of these standards can be found at the Georgia Department of Education Website.

Please review the **9th Grade Literature and Composition** syllabus attached with your child, sign below, and return this letter to me indicating you understand the rules and specifications outlined in this document. Students are expected to keep the syllabus in their notebooks all year.

We anticipate an exciting and successful year and look forward to working with your child. Thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

*Carolyn Flis*

*Alex Roll-Mitchell*

I have reviewed my child’s **9th Grade Literature and Composition** syllabus and understand the contents, requirements, and expectations of the course.

Parent Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I have reviewed the **9th Grade Literature and Composition** syllabus and understand the contents, requirements, and expectations of the course.

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_