**Hillgrove High School**

**English Department**

**Spring 2019**

**COURSE TITLE:** 10th Literature and Composition   
**TEACHER:** Ms. Katie Curran

**EMAIL**: [katherine.curran@cobbk12.org](mailto:katherine.curran@cobbk12.org)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

10th Grade Literature and Composition uses the Georgia Standards of Excellence for 9-10 as its guidelines. 10th Literature and Composition uses a variety of texts (written, visual, and audio) to employ strong, thorough, and explicit textual evidence in their analyses and research. Students will continue their development of vocabulary and apply effective reading strategies to a wide variety of literary and informational texts. They will work to establish effective writing habits and refine their language skills as they apply to listening, thinking, and speaking. Students will practice the writing process and produce works that include literary analysis, argument, and research. Assignments, activities, and assessments will provide practice toward mastery of the Georgia Standards of Excellence for 10th Grade.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Each student will work toward meeting the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards outlined for 10th grade on the Cobb County School District curriculum website. Everything you do in this class, whether written assignments, group assignments, oral presentations, etc. will focus on meeting a standard.

**GRADING WEIGHTS:**

Reading Literature/Reading Informational Text 25%

\*This includes assessment regarding the 10th Grade Student Growth Measurement (SGM)

Writing 25%

Speaking and Listening 20%

Language 15%

Final Exam (written and cumulative multiple choice) 15%

**MAJORTEXTS/READINGS:**

\*Springboard 10th Grade Literature Workbook

*Much Ado about Nothing -* Shakespeare (No Fear Version)

*Of Mice and Men -* John Steinbeck

\*\**Unwind* – Neal Shusterman

Choices for Independent Reading

\*Each student will be assigned an individual copy of the Springboard Workbook, which will not be required to leave the classroom. Each student is responsible for his or her book. The replacement fee for the Springboard Workbook is $83.00.

\*\*Students are required to purchase *Unwind* by Neal Shusterman in either hard copy or electronic copy. E-readers (such as a Kindle, Nook or iPad) are an acceptable format for classroom use; however, **cell phones and iPods are not.**

**Film(s):** Beyond the print texts for this course, we will also consider and “read” portions and/or all of several films*. A variety of other short film clips will be used to teach critical analysis as well.*

**MATERIALS NEEDED**:

* Spiral notebook/composition book
* 3 ring binder and dividers
* notebook paper
* pencils and blue/black ink pens
* assigned reading materials
* access to internet & google drive (a gmail address or gmail compatible address)

**PARTICIPATION:** **ALL** students are expected to actively and thoughtfully contribute to class discussions. Student involvement in the learning activities of the course is **expected** daily from every student. This includes attention to and participation in written and oral exercises, class discussion, being prepared for class, classwork and homework.

**EXTRA HELP:** English tutoring is available after school on Tuesday and Thursday each week.I am personally available by appointment most days before school and can make arrangements to meet after school. If a student would like additional help simply reach out and we will schedule a meeting.

**ATTENDANCE AND MAKE-UP POLICY:** A student who is present and actively participates is more likely to be successful; however, if a student is absent, he/she has the number of days absent plus one day to make up assigned work. Work not made up in this timeframe is considered late and could receive a zero. Making up any assignments and handing it in following an absence is the student’s responsibility. See Hillgrove High School Student Handbook for further policies regarding make-up work. If you are present at school during any part of the day an assignment is due, even if you have missed English, you must bring the assignment to the teacher to avoid a late grade penalty.

**LATE WORK POLICY:** Work turned in after the assigned date will receive a 10% grade deduction for that assignment. Late work may not be accepted depending on the severity of lateness/type of assignment/etc. Work is due when the teacher calls for it.

**TARDY POLICY:** When students are late to class they are missing valuable instruction. Being prompt is a skill that can be groomed and should be exercised daily. It shows respect for both the individual and those with whom you associate. Bottom line: BE ON TIME! Please consult student handbook for details on the Hillgrove High School tardy policy.

**CLASS BLOG:** The class blog will be updated daily. Students are expected to check this blog to view what they have missed in class. This blog will include information regarding in-class assignments as well as homework and long-term assignments. Li­nks to class blogs can be found by accessing the Hillgrove website. Select the School links tab found at the top of the site. Choose the English department and follow the blog link for Ms. Curran’s class. Direct link to blog is <https://katiecurran.weebly.com/>

**REMIND:** This is a site that allows for direct communication between teacher and student. Students and parents may choose to sign up to receive reminders of important deadlines via email or text message.

**To receive text messages:** Text @10LitSP19 to 81010 (if 81010 does not work, send to 704-271-1506).

**To receive emails**: visit the following link https://www.remind.com/join/10litsp19 and follow instructions for sign up.

**CLASS EXPECTATIONS:** My expectations are high for my students. REGULAR ATTENDANCE IS IMPERATIVE; class discussions and lessons are group activities and not easily replicated. Students cannot benefit and learn to their potential if they are consistently absent. These are some guidelines for our classrooms which will be thoroughly discussed in class:

* Be respectful to one another.
* Be prepared.
* Be ready and willing to learn.
* Bring ALL materials to class every day. This includes relevant text, notebook, writing tools, and homework! Failure to do so hinders your ability to participate in class, which affects your work and consequently, your grade.
* Dead time will be observed. Do not ask to go anywhere during the first 15 minutes or the last 15 minutes of class. This is a school-wide policy.

**DRILL POLICY** (this pertains to any and all school emergency drills): Students are expected to follow drill procedures exactly. Procedures will be thoroughly reviewed before any drill takes place and each drill will be treated as if it were real. Any student who does not follow drill procedures puts themselves, classmates, and teachers at risk and will be dealt with accordingly.

**CELL PHONE POLICY (this includes all personal technology devices)**

* Cell phone volume should be on vibrate/silent throughout the class period to avoid distractions.
* Students must obtain teacher permission to use their cell phones (apps, texts, calls)
* Students may have opportunities to listen to music during independent study times, but must have individual earphones. Students are not allowed to share music devices with other students.
* If cell phone usage causes a distraction to either its owner or others in the class, the teacher maintains the right to first warn and then write an administrative discipline referral for insubordination per Hillgrove High School policy.

**CONSEQUENCES\* for not adhering to Class Expectations**:

1st - Verbal Warning

2nd - Removal from Distraction and/or Parent Contact

3rd - Parent Contact and/or Detention

4th – Detention or Administrative Referral (with Parent Contact)

\* Teacher reserves the right to move directly 3rd or 4th consequences if behavior is severe

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:**

*Cheating is considered a serious matter. The parents of a student who has been involved in cheating will be notified and the student will receive a grade of zero for the test and U in conduct.*

For this course, cheating is defined as, but is not limited to, the following acts:

* Copying anyone’s answers to questions, exercises (including vocabulary), study guides, class work, or homework assignments
* Plagiarism: It is the act of using another person’s ideas and expressions in your writing without acknowledging the source. Repeating another’s words, phrases or sentences without quotation marks and proper citation is one form of plagiarism. Restating another’s “apt phrase,” argument or idea without proper citation is also plagiarism as it indicates the work is your own rather than that of the original source (MLA Handbook). Plagiarism is not limited to an amount of material that needs citation. It may be seen as a lack of citation for ONE sentence, one paragraph and/or an entire paper.
* Looking onto another student’s paper during a test or quiz.
* Having available any study notes or other test aids during a test or quiz without the teacher's permission.
* Collaborating on assignments when independent work is expected.
* Using cell phones, iPods, or other electronic device to send test answers or information to other students.
* Having a parent, guardian, family member, or friend complete research or assignments for you.
* Sharing correct or incorrect answers from any assignment (quiz, test, homework, etc.) without the teacher’s permission.

\*Consequences for violating the academic integrity policy can range from a zero on the assignment (or larger project if applicable) to disciplinary action with the teacher or administrator. Please refer to the Hillgrove High School student handbook for further information.

**HILLGROVE HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH DEPARTMENT Spring 2019**

**SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**TEACHER:** Ms. Katie Curran

**COURSE:** 10th Literature and Composition

**Parents, please check the boxes to the left indicating your agreement to the following:**

* **I have reviewed the class syllabus and understand the grading policy.**
* **I understand the academic integrity policy.**
* **I understand that Remind is not mandatory but encouraged for students and/or parents.**
* **I give my child permission to view movies/videos/film clips related to the curriculum.**
* **I understand that my child is responsible for his/her Springboard workbook and that the replacement fee for this workbook is $83.**
* **I am willing to be contacted by email, phone, and regular mail regarding my student’s progress.**
* **I have a Parent Vue account and can access the Synergy parent feature to check my child's progress.**
* **My child has access to a computer with internet access and a printer.**
* **I understand that teachers will make every effort to post grades within two weeks upon receipt of student work. However, posting of grades for larger assessments/tasks may take longer than two weeks.**

(Print) Student Name

Student Signature

(Print) Parent Name

Parent Signature

Parent cell phone number(s)

Parent e-mail(s)

Is there anything you would like to tell me about your student? Please leave comments here:

**RETURN THIS FORM WITH BOTH SIGNATURES BY Friday, January 18, 2019.**

**Please feel free to contact the teacher if you have any additional questions or concerns.**