

# HONORS LITERATURE & COMPOSITION 9

MRS. SCAGGS

This course offers a challenging curriculum for highly motivated students who enjoy reading and can work independently on various long-term projects. Literature units include classic and contemporary novels, short stories, poetry, and drama. Vocabulary development, research skills, and composition are emphasized. Writing assignments include essays, speeches, and short research reports. The five-paragraph composition is the basic format for essay assignments that include narrative, expository, persuasive, comparison, and literary analysis essays.

**Textbook:** *MyPerspectives ELA National*, grade 9  
Sadlier Vocabulary Workshop, Level D

## **Reading**

Holocaust Literature novel  
*The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak  
*Night*, Elie Wiesel  
*Great Expectations*, Dickens  
*The Odyssey*, Homer  
*The Tragedy of Romeo & Juliet*, Shakespeare  
Semester Independent Novel  
Select short stories and poetry  
*\*other novels may be added at a later date*

## **Writing**

Narrative  
Expository  
Literary Analysis  
Reflective  
Persuasive  
Research  
Poetry

## **Speaking**

Students should expect to perform at least one speech or oral presentation per quarter.

## **Grading**

Grading will be done on a point system. The following point values are approximate.

- ✓ Homework: 3-10 points
- ✓ Quizzes: 10-20 points
- ✓ Tests: 100 points
- ✓ Major Projects: 50-100 points

*\*Major projects and tests may be weighted according to twice the assignment's point value.*

## **Materials**

Bring the following materials with you to class every day.

- ✓ iPad
- ✓ Purple notebook & folder
- ✓ Pencil, blue or black pen, & red pen

## **Honors Expectations**

This is an honors course and, therefore, expectations for student work and behavior are heightened. An evaluation will be done at the end of the school year to determine a recommendation for Honors American Literature 10. The three main areas of focus are as follows **(1)** student work goes above and beyond expectations **(2)** student demonstrates a passion and enjoyment of the subject **(3)** student actively contributes to class discussion on a daily basis.

## **Student Responsibilities**

1. Bring necessary materials to class every day...

- iPad, charged
- English notebook & folder
- Writing utensils

2. Follow ALL classroom procedures...

- Arrive on time
- Begin bellwork IMMEDIATELY upon arriving
- Work efficiently
- Be prepared to follow the day's agenda

3. Meet classroom expectations...

### **A. Rules**

- Students will follow the rules in the school handbook
- Students will follow the signed iPad Acceptable Use Policy & Student Pledge
- Students will follow Mrs. Scaggs's rules: RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, FAIRNESS
- Expect that the Behavior Rubric will be enforced when necessary
- Students will not have any unauthorized electronics in class. If found with any of these items, the item will be confiscated and proper action will be taken.
- Students will not
  - move desks without permission
  - write on the board without permission
  - adjust windows, blinds, and thermostat without permission
  - deface school, teacher's, or classmates' property

### **B. Hall Passes**

Students may ask to sign out to use the restroom only in situations allowed by the teacher. In order to leave the classroom, the student must sign out with his / her NAME, DATE, DESTINATION, DEPARTURE TIME, and RETURN TIME and must take with them the yellow hall pass. If they do not sign out and back in properly and completely, no further hall passes will be allowed for that student. The teacher retains the right to allow or deny hall passes.

### C. Tardiness

Students will be on time and in their assigned seats, ready to begin when the class bell rings. If a student is tardy, the Behavior Rubric will be enforced.

### D. Homework

- ☑ Homework must be turned in when requested on the due date in order to get full credit for that assignment.
- ☑ Late homework will be accepted for half-credit. An assignment is late if it is not turned in when requested.
- ☑ Major Projects will be marked down 10% per day late.
- ☑ Absences: Students will receive the number of school days absent in order to make up work from those absences. Students are responsible for checking the class website and inquiring about missed work!
- ☑ Make-up tests and quizzes: Students are expected to make arrangements with the teacher to make up a quiz or test that was missed due to an excused absence. If one week goes by without arrangements having been made, a zero will be given for the test / quiz.

*\* I understand that strange circumstances arise and, therefore, will take certain situations into account.*

### D. Academic Honesty / Cheating / Plagiarism

Cheating and plagiarism will in no way be tolerated!

- Sharing homework and/or test answers is considered **cheating**.
- The use of someone else's work as one's own (with or without permission) without proper citation is considered **plagiarism**.

Both are extremely serious offences and will result in no credit given for the assignment as well as further consequences, per the behavior rubric. For a detailed account on plagiarism and academic dishonesty, consult the student handbook.

### E. Digital Citizenship & iPad Policies

It is absolutely essential that you make good use of your iPad. The iPad is not a toy, but rather a tool that we will be employing throughout the course of the school year. Remember that you are responsible for the content (apps, documents, pictures, video, music, etc.) on your iPad, its functionality, organization, etc., and therefore, you are ultimately responsible for everything that occurs with your iPad (online privacy, online presence, digital communication, and digital etiquette)! This will be further discussed in class.

If you misuse your iPad, the Behavior Rubric will be followed, and your iPad will be confiscated and returned to you at the end of the day in the office. On further offenses, you will earn further school discipline in addition to having your iPad confiscated.

### Commonly Used iPad Apps / Websites

If you haven't already done so, please download the following apps:

- |                  |              |           |             |                |
|------------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|
| ✓ iHomework      | ✓ Notability | ✓ Pages   | ✓ Kidblog   | ✓ Power School |
| ✓ Realize Reader | ✓ Dropbox    | ✓ Keynote | ✓ Socrative | ✓ iMovie       |

**\*\*Remember to make note of the user ID and password for each new account!**

### Grading Scale

99-100	A+	87-89	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+	0-59	F
93-98	A	83-86	B	73-76	C	63-66	D		
90-92	A-	80-82	B-	70-72	C-	60-62	D-		

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Please sign on the lines below and show to Mrs. Scaggs by Friday, August 18, 2017.  
This document should be kept in your purple folder.

*"I have read this course description and classroom expectation sheet and understand what I must do in order to be successful in Honors Literature & Composition 9 this year."*

\_\_\_\_\_  
student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
date

\_\_\_\_\_  
date