



**Hillgrove High School**  
**English Department**  
**FALL 2017**

**COURSE TITLE:** 10<sup>th</sup> Literature and Composition

**TEACHER:** Mrs. Emily Ellwood

**EMAIL:** emily.ellwood@cobbk12.org

**BLOG:** \_\_\_\_\_

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

10<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature and Composition uses the Georgia Standards of Excellence for 9-10 as its guidelines. 10<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> Grade.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Each student will work toward meeting the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards outlined for 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

**MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

All assignments are aligned with the standards and will be evaluated accordingly.

- A. *Summative Assessments/Tasks* – Each unit includes core tasks, writing and/or performance assignments that are summative in nature and assess your learning. This course also includes a Student Learning Objective (SLO) pre- and post-test that will be included in the Reading grading category.
- B. *Classwork/Homework* – Work done in class or at home; not all is graded, but could be at any time.
- C. *Formative Assessments* – Each unit includes formative assessments to monitor your progress as you move toward summative assessments.
- D. *Final Exam* – Exam will be cumulative.

<b>GRADING WEIGHTS:</b>	Reading Literature/Reading Informational Text	25%
	Writing	25%
	Speaking and Listening	20%
	Language	15%
	Final Exam (2 parts: Written and Cumulative)	15%

**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.

**MAJOR TEXTS/READINGS:**

Please plan on having your own copy of each text.

*Much Ado About Nothing*, Shakespeare (No Fear Version is suggested)

*Of Mice and Men* (John Steinbeck)

Springboard 10<sup>th</sup> Literature text (provided; this will remain in class)

Independent reading novels (provided; these will remain in class)

**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.*

\*NOTE\*: If a parent/guardian has a concern with any text or other material for the course, please contact me **in advance** so we can discuss an alternate assignment for your student.

## **TURN OVER**

### **MATERIALS NEEDED:**

- Spiral notebook (at least one subject)
- 3 ring binder and dividers
- notebook paper
- pencils and blue/black ink pens
- assigned reading materials

### **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 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:** Late work may not be given full credit. 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 TO CLASS!** Please consult student handbook for details on the Hillgrove High School tardy policy.

**EXTRA HELP:** I am available by appointment most days except Wednesday mornings and Fridays.

### **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:

- Be kind to one another.
- Be prepared, be engaged, and be ready to learn.
- Respect yourself, one another, and me.
- Listen with sincerity and openness.
- Bring ALL materials to class every day. This includes relevant text, notebook, and writing tools. 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.

### **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:**

1<sup>st</sup>- Verbal Warning

2<sup>nd</sup>- Parent Contact/Detention

3<sup>rd</sup>- Parent Contact/Detention/Administrative Referral

\*Severe disruptions will be referred immediately to parents and administration

**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.
- 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.

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**COURSE:** 10<sup>th</sup> 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 give my child permission to view G, PG or PG13 movies/videos/film clips if they are related to the curriculum of the class.
- I am willing to be contacted by email, phone, and regular mail regarding my student's progress.
- I have access to the Internet and will access the Synergy parent feature to check on my child's progress.
- 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.

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(Print) Student Name

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Student Signature

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(Print) Parent Name

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Parent Signature

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Parent cell phone numbers

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Parent e-mail

**COMMENTS:**

**RETURN THIS FORM WITH BOTH SIGNATURES BY Thursday, August 3, 2017.**

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