**Fall Semester 2019**

**Department:  English**

**COURSE TITLE: 9th Literature**

**INSTRUCTOR (S):** Dr. Dawn Whipple

**EMAIL**: dawn.whipple@cobbk12.org

**COURSE BLOG**: <http://www.doctorwhipple.com/9th-lit-blog>

**SCHOOL WEBSITE:** <http://www.cobbk12.org/Pebblebrook/>

**TUTORIAL / EXTRA HELP:**  Students can receive additional assistance for course content afterschool on Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:45-5:00 pm by appointment.

**PHS SCHOOL MISSION**

*Student Success: Every Day, Everyone, Every Opportunity – Believe You Can.*

**PHS SCHOOL VISION**

*Create a school community of purpose driven, passionate stakeholders in pursuit of excellence.*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** 9th Grade Literature is a 1credit course which combines the traditional survey of classic and contemporary fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama with an innovative, multidisciplinary approach to writing. Students will develop proficiency in all five domains of the Georgia Standards of Excellence standards for Language Arts while developing 21st century communication and technology skills.

**Required/Supplemental/Parallel Texts for the Course:**

* SpringBoard *English Language Arts Grade 9*
* Various fictional short stories
* Independent Reading Texts (gained from Media Center, Class Library, or Purchase)
* *Romeo and Juliet by* William Shakespeare
* Nonfiction writings included but not limited to news reports, biographies, speeches, and visual media

**Possible film(s):**

*\*A variety of other short film clips will be used as well.*

**MATERIALS NEEDED**:

1. 3 ring binder and loose-leaf paper
2. Pens/pencils
3. Composition Book
4. Independent reading texts

**CLASS EXPECTATIONS:**

1. Be Proactive
2. Begin with the End in Mind
3. Put the First Things First
4. Think Win-Win
5. Seek First to Understand Then to be Understood
6. Synergize
7. Sharpen the Saw

**ATTENDANCE AND MAKE-UP POLICY:** It is the student’s responsibility to obtain and submit any work missed work due to an absence. Students are permitted the number of excused absences plus one day to complete any missing work. After that point the work will be considered late and will be graded accordingly.

**TARDY POLICY:**

To avoid being counted tardy, ***students must be seated and ready for class when the bell rings***.  School policy states that students may receive detention and or an administrative referral for repeated tardies.

**CELL PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES***:*

As per school policy, cell phones are not to be used during class time unless directed by the teacher for instructional purposes. Students are allowed to bring certain technologies to class (iPad, laptop, Kindle, etc.), but they should **NOT** interfere with the teaching or learning.

**REMIND:**

I will be using the Remind feature to keep in contact with students outside of the classroom.  The Remind feature will send text-like messages to the students’ phones and/or e-mails.  Please contact me if you have a concern with your student using Remind. To join Remind for this class, you can either:

* Go to www.remind.com/join/whipple9
* Download the Remind app (free for iPhone and Android) and add class
* @whipple9
* Text: @codes above to 810-10

**GRADING SCALE:**

A - 100-90%

B - 89-80%

C - 79-74%

D – 70-73%

F - 69-Below

**GRADING POLICY**:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Category | Weight |
| Formative | 40% |
| Summative | 40% |
| EOC Exam | 20% |

**UNIT ASSESSMENT RETEST**

Students are allowed to retake assessments within one week before or after school. Please contact your teacher to schedule an administration time.

**FINAL EXAM EXEMPTION POLICY**

If students meet the criteria below, they may exempt up to 2 finals per semester. Policies do not apply to magnet or AP classes.

* Course grade must be 80 or higher in the requested course(s)
* No ISS / OSS for the requested semester
* No more than 3 excused absences in *any* class during the requested semester
* No unexcused absences in *any* class during the requested semester
* No unexcused tardies in *any* class during the requested semester

**EOC RETESTS**

It is the expectation that any student who scores between 65 and 69 on an End Of Course exam retake the exam to attempt to raise their grade regardless of their class grade.

**LATE WORK POLICY:** Any late work will receive a highest possible grade of a 70 if turned in after the assignment is due. The student will have until the unit test to turn in late work and will receive a highest possible grade of 70. No work will be graded after the Unit Test.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:**

*Cheating is considered a serious matter.  Any student who is involved in cheating/plagiarism will receive a grade of zero on the assignment, parents will be notified, and in some cases, students will receive an administrative referral.*

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

* Copying anyone's answers to questions, exercises, study guides, class work or homework assignments
* Taking any information verbatim from any source, including the Internet, without giving proper credit to the author, or rearranging the order of words and/or changing some words as written by the author and claiming the work as his or her own, i.e., plagiarism.
* 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.

**SYNERGY ACCESS TO GRADES:**

It is strongly encouraged that you keep your Synergy login information in a safe place and that you have access to the information when needed.  Parents should contact the Main Office (770.819.2521)

**Homework/Class Work Requirements**

* Students are expected to interact with the class blog [www.doctorwhipple.com](http://www.doctorwhipple.com) on a weekly basis and to complete projects and assignments by their expected due dates.

**Projects:**

* Some of the learning that takes place in this class will be student-driven and project based.  True learning takes place when students solve problems and discover things on their own.  I will not stand in front of the class and simply tell you what you need to know.
* Some projects will be individual, but many will require you to work in a small group.  Generally, groups will initially be two people but if students prove that they are able to work well in larger groups, I will allow it.
* While I understand that some people prefer to work alone, working with others is an essential skill that is needed to be successful as an adult.  If you are one of these people, please speak with me in private and I will attempt to group you with other students in which you will be compatible.

**Tests and Quizzes:**

* The majority of the tests and quizzes I give are multiple choice and short answer.  However, all tests can include a combination of any of the following: multiple choice, true/false, matching, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, and essay questions.
* Quizzes will be scheduled in advance, but the teacher reserves the right to give pop quizzes. If participation in class is low, students are not able to participate in class discussions with reasonable intelligence of the material, and/or did not complete the homework, a pop quiz may be given. Quizzes will cover the readings that the student is to have completed, class activities, and any notes given in class lecture (normally only a week’s worth of material).

Final Thoughts:

*Dear Scholars,*

First and foremost, I am excited to work with you this semester.  I believe in the sentiments expressed by writer and scholar Audre Lorde. Lorde states that “the learning process is something you can incite like a riot.” As your teacher, it is my responsibility to ignite your passion for learning.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, “the function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.” While we will explore many forms of literature and writing in this class, my ultimate goal is to challenge you to think and engage with the world around you.

You have elected to take a demanding pre-advanced placement class in the study of English Language Arts. My expectations of you are high because of your desire to achieve. Avoid procrastination and shortcuts as they will only hurt your chances of success. This course requires your diligence and attention. You will succeed as an individual according to the effort put into the course. Please see me with any issues or concerns.

I encourage you to shoot for the moon so, that you may land comfortably amongst the stars.

**Dr. Whipple**

**Syllabus Acknowledgement Form, Fall 2019**

TEACHER:  Dr. Whipple

COURSE:  9th Literature

**Student’s Acknowledgements:**

* I have read and I understand the academic integrity policy.
* I have reviewed the class syllabus and understand the grading policy.
* I understand that it is my responsibility to get the required books for this class.
* I understand that I need a binder/notebook and other materials for this class.
* I understand that I need to keep up with my grade on Synergy.
* I understand that I need to check the blog each night.

Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

    (Please Print)

Student’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Student’s Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian’s Acknowledgements:**

* I have read and I understand the academic integrity policy.
* I have reviewed the class syllabus and understand the grading policy.
* I give permission for my child to view the listed movies that are related to the curriculum of the class.
* I give permission for my child to read the required texts noted in the syllabus.
* I am willing to be contacted by e-mail, phone, and regular mail regarding my child’s progress.
* I will access the classroom blog and the Synergy parent feature to check on my child’s progress.
* I give my written permission to allow my student to utilize an e-mail account (Gmail preferred) in order to complete classwork and communicate with their instructor.

Parent/Guardian’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

             (Please Print)

Parent/Guardian’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian’s Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian’s Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

           (Home)         (Work/Cell)

**What is the best way to contact you?** (Please circle)   E-mail    or     Phone

**Any Comments?**