

Ringgold High School

9TH Honors Literature and Composition Syllabus

- Collaborating Teacher(s):** Whitney Allison *wallison.rhs@catoosa.k12.ga.us*
- Catoosa County Vision:** CCPS will be a nationally recognized learning community whose graduates are prepared for tomorrow's challenges.
- School Mission:** To empower our students with academic excellence.
- Course Description:** Ninth grade literature and composition is a rigorous course with high expectations. This course is taught with the belief that every child can learn and be successful. The curriculum covers a variety of literary genres and writing genres. Additional studies include vocabulary, grammar, presentation skills, the writing process, research skills, outside reading, answering open-ended question, and End of Course Test preparation.
- Course Expectations:** All students will be required to produce research assignments, projects, and several performance tasks in order to receive credit for the course. Outside reading is required, and students will be expected to know the material. All homework assignments are due at the beginning of class; therefore, it should be completed before entering the class. The habitual practice of turning work in late is unacceptable. Homework/class work may include, but not be limited to, written assignments, note taking, quizzes, worksheets, peer-editing teams, individual and team presentations, skits, SAT vocabulary preparation, essay construction, library research, grammar review, SSR daily reading, etc. Participating in daily class discussions is expected and required.
- Summer Reading:** Students will be expected to read the following books prior to the beginning of the school year:
1. *A Farewell to Arms* by Ernest Hemingway
 2. *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles
 3. excerpts from *Mythology* by Edith Hamilton
 - a. Introduction to Classical Mythology (*includes Mythology of the Greeks and Greek and Roman Writers of Mythology*)
 - b. The Gods (*includes Titans and 12 Great Olympians, Lesser Gods of Olympus, Gods of Waters, Underworld, Lesser Gods of Earth, and Roman Gods*)
 - c. The Cyclops Polyphemus
 - d. Pyramus and Thisbe
 - e. The Trojan War (*includes Prologue: Judgment of Paris and Trojan War*)
 - f. The Adventures of Odysseus (*all*)
 - g. The House of Atreus (*includes Tantalus and Niobe, Agamemnon and His Children, and Iphigenia among the Taurians*)
- Required Materials:** Loose leaf notebook paper, a three-ring binder, black ink pen, pencil, lined index cards, various outside novels, access to computer with Microsoft Word and access to a printer. It is recommended that you secure a flash drive for saving and transporting/archiving your work.
- Writing Portfolio:** Students will be required to produce a variety of writing samples which will measure achievement and ability. The evidence in the writing portfolio will be a determiner for recommendation to future honors English courses.
- Outside Reading:** Students will be required to read three (3) novels from the AP suggested reading list. These novels will be assessed in the form of an *in-class* writing assignment.
- Honors Late Work Policy:** Late work will **NOT** be accepted. All assignments must be **ON TIME, EVERY TIME!** Turning in late work and producing poor quality work are unbecoming behaviors for an honor student to display. Extenuating circumstances must be just that...extenuating!

Over, please

Pre and Post Tests: Students will be tested at the beginning, middle, and end of the course in the form of a diagnostic writing essay and/or a Common Core Georgia Performance Standards-based examination.

Make-up Work: All make-up work is the responsibility of the student and must be completed in accordance with the policies set forth by the Catoosa County Board of Education.

Extra Help: Please notify the instructor immediately if additional help is needed. We are here to help students succeed.

Grading: Grades will be determined through a variety of assessments including quizzes, literature responses, formal essays, research paper, class presentations, class discussions, writing portfolio, vocabulary tests, multiple-choice exams, and essay tests.

Grade for Nine Weeks	50% Daily work (homework, quizzes, journals, etc.) 50% Tests/performance tasks
Grade for Semester	40% Grade for 1 st Nine Weeks 40% Grade for 2 nd Nine Weeks 20% End-of-Course Test

Infinite Campus: Infinite Campus enhances communication between parents/guardians and teachers, allowing parents/guardians to be informed and proactive in their child’s education. The Campus Portal is where parents/guardians login to access real-time student data including attendance and grades. Campus Portal is accessible on any device with Internet access; it “reduces printing and mailing costs and minimizes lost school-to-home communications.”

-Information on creating a Campus Portal account can be found at <https://campus.catoosa.k12.ga.us/campus/portal/catoosa.jsp>.
-Information on the Campus Portal mobile app can be found at <http://media.infinitecampus.com/public/html/mobile/index.html>.

Parent Notification: Each parent/guardian will be contacted a minimum of **4** times during each semester. Every **4 ½** weeks, a progress report **or** a report card will be sent home via the student. Other contacts may be made on an *as needed* basis only. Parents will also have web access to *Infinite Campus*. Please note: English teachers require additional time to post essay grades as the grading time is immense.

Attendance: Students are **required** to be at school! It is the parent/guardian’s responsibility to ensure that students are in school every day and on time every day. Board policy allows 5 days for emergency absences only (illness, bereavement, etc.) Over five unexcused absences will result in failure. Attendance is **REQUIRED!** Please schedule medical/dental appointments after 3:30 *if* possible.

Honesty Policy: It is essential that you complete your own work for this course. All work completed in this class must be your own. All writing assignments must reflect your own original ideas unless documented otherwise in your paper. It is *never* acceptable to copy from the internet, steal from a previous student’s portfolio or computer files, or allow anyone to write any portion of a paper for you. Plagiarism in any form is a *serious* offense and is insulting to intellectuals, scholars, and all of academia. Do not entertain the thought of plagiarizing in this class.

Student Name (Print Last, First): _____

Acknowledgements: *We have read the syllabus and understand the requirements for success.*

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____