

Ringgold High School English

FRESHMAN Honors Literature and Composition 2015-2016

Course Description: Honors 9th grade literature and composition is a rigorous course with high expectations. The curriculum covers a variety of literary and writing genres. Additional studies include vocabulary, grammar, presentation skills, the writing process, research skills, outside reading, answering open-ended questions, and End of Course Exam preparation.

Course Expectations: Honors 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. 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: Honors students will be expected to read the following books **prior** to the beginning of school: **1. *The House on Mango Street*** by Sandra Cisneros, and **2. *A Separate Peace*** by John Knowles. Please visit the RHS website for additional information regarding Summer Reading.

RHS ELA: One Team-One Mission!

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SOPHOMORE Honors Literature and Composition

Course Description: Honors 10th grade literature and composition integrates writing, grammar and usage, vocabulary, literature, speaking, listening, viewing, and critical thinking skills. The course presents the writing process and the various modes of writing along with a study of various genres of literature. The course is designed to meet the AP and GPS/*Common Core Standards* which can be accessed at www.doe.k12.ga.us. NOTE: Honors classes do get progressively more rigorous at each grade level.

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. 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 school: Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex/King* *Orwell's *Animal Farm* *Elie Wiesel's *Night*. Please visit the RHS website for additional information regarding Summer Reading.

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American Literature: Junior Honors English

Course Description: The main objectives of 11th grade Honors English are to improve writing skills and to improve reading skills. Students will write extensively as well as read various types of American literary selections and primary historical texts. This course will trace the development of American literature beginning with Native American literature and ending with modern literature examining both the historical and social context of each selection. NOTE: Honors classes do get progressively more rigorous at each grade level.

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. 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 school: *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines. Please visit the RHS website for additional information regarding Summer Reading.

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AP English Literature: Senior Honors English

Course Overview: The 12th grade Advanced Placement Literature and Composition course is designed to follow the curricular requirements as set forth by the **AP College Board**. Students in the AP English Lit course will engage in the careful reading of literary works, **sharpen** their awareness of language and their understanding of the writer's craft, develop critical standards, and increase their **sensitivity** to literature as a *shared* experience. Students will study the individual work, its language, its characters, the action, and the theme(s). Students will consider the work's structure, meaning, and value along with its relationship to contemporary experience as well as to the context in which it was written. Each literary work will be approached in a mature manner recognizing that works of literary merit are created to expose, to reveal, to enrage, to provoke, to challenge, to offend, and to enlighten.

Course Expectations: Reading, interpreting, and writing will all coexist in the AP English Lit course. The ability to construct mature arguments and analysis using a variety of sentences will be the standard. Assignments will focus on the critical analysis of literature and will include informal/formal essays, critical essays based on **close textual analysis** of structure, style (figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone), theme, and social/historical values. Also, speaking and writing along with debate and dialogue about different subjects should further develop a sense of how style, subject, and audience are related. The desired goals are the honest and effective use of language and the energetic organization of ideas in a clear, coherent, imaginative, analytical, and persuasive manner.

Summer Reading: Students will be expected to read the following books prior to the beginning of school. Please select **TWO** of the following: Shakespeare's *King Lear*, Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, and/or Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Please visit the RHS website for additional information regarding Summer Reading.

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