**Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Instructor: Mrs. Tharp**

**Course: IB English Literature 12**

**Date: August 11, 2016**

**2016-2017 Syllabus**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OUTLINE**

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| **IB English Literature is a two-year course that concentrates on literary study and analysis. Year two looks more specifically at the techniques associated with the various literary genres. All of the major syllabus components are listed below. (\*indicates texts studied by HL students only)** |
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| **Semester One: Detailed study** All works are chosen from the prescribed list of authors (PLA) for the language A being studied, each from a **different** genre.**SL: Two works HL: Three works***Selected poems* by Gwendolyn Brooks **POETRY***Selected short stories* by Eudora Welty **FICTION***Selected essays* by Joan Didion\***NONFICTION****INTERNAL ASSESSMENT: Individual Oral Commentaries, December 2016****EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT: Paper One Literary Commentary, Unseen Text, May 2017** |
| **Semester Two: Literary genres** **DRAMA**All works are chosen from the prescribed list of authors (PLA) for the language A being studied, all from the **same** genre.**SL: Three works HL: Four works***Macbeth* by William Shakespeare*“Master Harold”…and the boys* by Athol Fugard*Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller*The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde\***EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT: Paper Two, Compare/Contrast Analysis on Drama, May 2017** |

**GRADING POLICIES**

**HCDE Scores** Grades are accessible at any time through the parent portal of PowerSchool.  High school grades are finalized at the end of each semester (December and May). For high school courses Semester 1 and Semester 2 grades DO NOT average together for a final year-long average**.** The finalized grades are used to calculate a high school Grade Point Average (GPA).  The grading scale is as follows: A = 93-100, B = 85-92, C = 75-84, D = 70-74, F = 0-69. Daily work=37.5%, Tests/Major Assessments=37.5%, Exam=25%

**IB Scores** The IB **Diploma Program** is an internationally recognized program that provides a rigorous pre-university course of studies, leading to examinations, designed for highly motivated secondary school students.The program is designed as a comprehensive two-year curriculum that allows its graduates to fulfill and exceed requirements of state, national and international high school graduation. Scores are earned by fulfilling specific criteria on each rubric. All internal and external assessment are combined to determine the score of 1-7 for each course. Individual colleges and universities have their own specific standards for granting credit for IB work. IB courses have **five points** added to each semester grade.  Students who do not take the required IB exam will not receive the additional 5 points to the final semester grade.

**Tharp’s Personal Grading/Makeup Work Philosophy** All of my grading policies fall within HCDE and IB standards of assessment, but here they are, just to be clear:

* Daily Work is used for formative assessment purposes (determining student’s skills and understanding); therefore, not every daily assignment will be “graded.” Just always assume it will be, and it will be fine! ;-)
* Daily Work is also used to prepare students for summative assessments (mastery of skills and understanding), so NO Daily Work can be made up after the final assessment/test for that unit of study. This usually gives students much more time than the minimum time for makeup work per HCDE, but this is a **non-negotiable** with me. Getting and completing makeup work is the responsibility of the student.
* I grade almost everything on an IB rubric, and I use a conversion scale shared by most DP teachers to translate scores to HCDE scale. Students have access to this conversion chart on Managebac.
* Grading papers is a very time consuming process. My rule of thumb is that I will always try to get papers graded and entered into PowerSchool by the next progress report date. This is basically a 3-week turnaround for major assignments. I will try to consistently use the “Collected” feature in PS as well, especially for major assessments.

**TEACHER EXPECTATIONS AND PROCEDURES**

**Communication**

* Because my students are one short year away from college, my priority for communication is with students, not their parents. However, I will seek support from home if a student is in real jeopardy, and I am always willing and available to speak with parents if requested.
* I mainly use PowerSchool as a gradebook rather than a communication tool, so there won’t often be lengthy descriptions there. I use **Managebac** as my primary means for communication. Students should check it and/or their email every day. If I post something important on Managebac, I usually send an email alert along with it so students are notified that something has been updated. Every assignment on Managebac will include a thorough explanation, due date, and rubric.
* My electronic device policy is pretty easy:
	+ **Phones** *“Out of sight, out of mind.”* Sometimes I’ll tell students to use their phones for classroom purposes, but they should not just leave them on their desks to check every Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, or text notification they receive. This is a distraction they need to avoid during class time. I will take them up if needed.
	+ **Pads, Tablets, and Laptops** *“Use these powers for good, not evil.”* I know many students take notes on these devices, but if I see a game, social media outlet, etc., on the screen, I will ask them to put it away. If it happens repeatedly, the student will lose the privilege to use the device in my classroom. There are also times I will request students bring these devices for writing and researching purposes. They are great to have; just use them responsibly.
	+ **Reading Literature** *“Let’s not let technology replace our humanity.”* There is no need for e-readers of any type in my class. I will make paper copies of the works we read 1st semester since they are all short pieces that should be closely read and annotated. During the 2nd semester, we will study drama, and students should have their own paper copies. These texts will be used like scripts for reading and marked with annotations for close study in preparation for the Paper Two exam. Reading on a screen is great for pleasure reading, but there’s just something that troubles me about seeing a kid reading a work of Shakespeare on an iPhone. Sorry, I can’t help it!

**Discipline**

I very, very rarely have to seek intervention or take action for student misconduct. I hope I am always respectful to students (although they do have to get used to my sarcasm!), but more than anything, I expect students to respect themselves and others. We may disagree, but as long as everyone knows that, ultimately, I am the one in the room who is right, we will all get along just fine! (See, I’m just kidding. That’s a good example of my snarky side.) **Seriously though, I reserve the right (as should you)…**

* **to be wrong *sometimes***
* **to make mistakes *sometimes***
* **to change my mind *sometimes***
* **and to try to learn as much from you as you learn from me *all the time*!**

Be respectful, be kind, be forgiving, be humble, and be confident. Anyone who nurtures those traits will go great distances in life. The IB Learner Profile traits will come if you master those first!

**Academic Honesty** I consider this to be one of the most important skills I have to teach.

* **Please read the newly drafted SMMHS Academic Honesty Policy and the DP Contract.**
* **Zero Tolerance on Dishonesty** We all make mistakes, and I can *almost* *always* tell the difference between a mistake and an act of deliberate cheating or plagiarism. Deliberate acts of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in my class. The result will be a zero on the assignment, parent notification, and a disciplinary referral to administration, per HCDE policy. Beyond these measures, I will deal with infractions on a case-by-case basis.
* **Turnitin.com** I am the administrator for our school’s Turnitin account, and so I work closely with other teachers who run across problems in other courses. I know Turnitin sometimes picks up silly things, but I also see patterns from students. I know that students by their junior and senior year understand what plagiarism is. Please be aware that I use Turnitin (along my 20 years of experience of teaching research) to *prevent* plagiarism. Let Turnitin work as a tool for you, too! I typically allow resubmissions until the due date. If you turn something in and it shows problems, see me if you need help fixing them! That’s what I’m here for. But do not wait until the due date and just hope for the best. DUE DATES AND DEADLINES ARE FINAL.

Thanks to all students and parents/guardians for taking time to read this document. I’m looking forward to a great year with these kiddos! Senior year is super fun, and it flies by. Cherish every moment…the good, the bad, and the ugly. They will all make for great stories around the holiday table someday! I speak from experience!

Sincerely,

Tara Tharp

Works Consulted

"Language A: Literature Guide." *Language A: Literature Guide*. International Baccalaureate, Feb. 2011. Web. 05 Aug. 2015.

"Signal Mountain Middle/High School (6-12) Handbook." *Signal Mountain Middle/High School (6-12) Handbook*. SMMHS, Aug. 2015. Web. 05 Aug. 2015.

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Please sign below indicating that you understand the information provided on this syllabus. Tear off this bottom portion and return to Mrs. Tharp for record-keeping and documentation purposes.

NOTICE TO DIPLOMA PROGRAMME CANDIDATES AND PARENTS: The information provided also applies to the Theory of Knowledge course and the Extended Essay. You will not have to sign multiple forms since I am the instructor overseeing those core components as well.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_