

GAINESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Course Syllabus

Instructor: Cindy Lloyd

Room#: NGC-412

Year: 2015-16

Course Name and Course #: Honors World Literature and Composition (230630029 and 2320630029)

Textbooks: *Elements of Literature: Fourth Course*. Austin: Holt, Rhinehart, and Winston, 2005. *World Literature*. 3rd ed. Austin: Holt, Rhinehart, and Winston, 2001. *African American Literature: Voices in a Tradition*. Austin, Texas: Holt, Rhinehart, and Winston, 1998. *World Myths and Folktales*. Austin, Texas: Holt, Rhinehart, Winston, 2002.

Supplementary Texts or Special Materials: A variety of supplemental novels and other texts will be used throughout the semester, including, but not limited to, *Oedipus* by Sophocles, *Dante's Divine Comedy*, *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar* by William Shakespeare, *The Ides of March* by Thornton Wilder, *The Lord of the Flies* by William Golding, *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest J. Gaines, *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini, *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros, *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen, and *Night* by Elie Wiesel.

Course Description: This course focuses on a study of World Literature; the students develop an understanding of chronological context and the relevance of period structures in literature within world cultures. A focus is to explore the ways the work's place of origin affects its structure and how the chronology of a literary work affects its meaning. The students develop an understanding of literature as both a culture's product and a culture-bearer. An exploration of commonalities and differences among works of literature from different times and places in the world is a major component. The students will read across the curriculum to develop academic and personal interests in different subjects. The 9-10 grade band of the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards will be used for this course and a Student Learning Objective assessment will serve as the final exam for the course.

Course Outline and Content: This course, taken during the 9th or 10th grade year, provides a thematic overview of the literature of selected world cultures. The student will read, analyze, reflect on, and respond to a variety of genres—novels, plays, poetry, short stories, and nonfiction—by world authors, to develop reading comprehension, writing skills, vocabulary development, and research skills.

Unit 1: Ancient Literature: Archetype, Allusion, and Myth

We will study Greek and Roman mythology and the monomyth structure. Students will be able to recognize archetypal characters and plot elements and will gain foundational knowledge of ancient texts in order to recognize allusions in modern texts.

Unit 2: From Dark to Light: The Dark Ages to the Enlightenment

Texts may include, but are not limited to: *The Prince*, *The Inferno*, *Julius Caesar*, and *Don Quixote*. We will explore how the literature of the times created and reflected drastic historical changes. Students will improve their analytical and rhetorical skills, produce creative responses, and continue to improve recognition of archetypes and literary elements.

Unit 3: The Modern World – Imperialism, Nationalism, and Globalization

This unit will explore the consequences of the world's wars and power struggles through texts such as *Night*, *Things Fall Apart*, and *The Old Man and the Sea* as well as supplemental informational texts. Students will use higher order thinking skills to make connections between ancient and modern works while strengthening analytical skills.

Unit 4: Persuasion: How do we persuade? What persuades us?

Our final unit will emphasize understanding of argument, rhetoric, and persuasion through analysis, evaluation, and composition. Texts may include web blogs, OP-ED articles, satire, narrative, speeches, and folktales but will largely focus on controversial topics and current issues.

Instructor Goals: To pique your imaginative capacity and natural curiosity, to increase your awareness of the value of effective communication, to enhance your writing skills and increase the confidence and skill with which you write, and to heighten your appreciation of literature and the value of reading while developing your ability to analyze and think critically

Special Assignments and Projects: For summer reading, students were to have read Adam Shepard's *Scratch Beginnings* and completed the annotation assignment. Students will also complete a variety of individual and group assignments and projects related to each unit of study over the course of the semester and will compose essays in response to two DBQ Project Literature Mini-Qs.

Classroom Expectations and Discipline Procedures: 1. Be prepared. 2. Be respectful. 3. Be accountable.

All students are expected to follow the school rules as outlined in the student handbook. In accordance with the tiered progressive discipline policy, teachers will follow a four-step procedure for dealing with discipline and tardies.

1. Step one: verbal warning
2. Step two: parent contact
3. Step three: teacher detention
4. Step four: discipline referral

Make-up Policy for Absences: Students are expected and permitted to make up all work missed as a result of an excused absence. You are responsible for finding out what you missed the day you return to school after an absence and submitting make-up work in the agreed upon timeframe—without being prompted. Please note: if you are absent on the day a scheduled summative assignment is due, you WILL NOT be allowed to submit the assignment upon your return unless your absence was excused.

Late Work: Per GHS English department policy, late work will not be accepted in honors and AP-level courses. Only assignments submitted on time will receive credit.

Supplies: For this class you will need a three-ring binder, dividers, a composition book, paper, pens, pencils, highlighters, sticky notes for annotations, and any texts which have been issued.

Grading System: Grades will consist of summative grades such as tests, papers, projects, etc. and formative grades such as homework, reading checks, quizzes, etc. The computation of final grades will be weighted as follows: summative grades 45%, formative grades 35%, and final exam 20%. Please note that American Literature is one of the core content area subjects for which the State Board of Education requires you take a Georgia Milestone EOC assessment as your final exam.

Starter Activities: Each day you will complete some type of language analysis or writing activity that will serve as your starter activity. As directions will be posted on the board as you enter the classroom, you should begin work immediately.

Vocabulary and Grammar: You will complete a variety of vocabulary and grammar activities. At this point in your academic career, you should be familiar with studying for vocabulary quizzes; therefore, vocabulary will largely be an at-home activity. You can expect scheduled vocabulary quizzes that will test your ability to use vocabulary words correctly within a given context. Vocabulary lists will all be posted on Quizlet.com under the following class name: Lloyd's English 2(H) Spring 2016.

Notebook/Writing Portfolio: Students will be expected to maintain a binder organized into prescribed sections separated by dividers or tabs. One section of the notebook will be designated as the student's writing portfolio. Student should keep all written work (yes, for the entire semester) within the writing portfolio section of the binder. The writing portfolio will serve as a formative assessment at various points throughout our time together but may ultimately count as a summative assessment.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the use of exact words, whole passages, whole papers, or ANY ideas that are not originally one's own without giving credit to the original source. Even if you reword, omit, or change a few words, it is still plagiarism. Plagiarism is a form of **CHEATING**. ANY form of cheating in this class will result in a zero on the assignment and an administrative referral.

Classroom Electronic Use Policy: 1. Electronic devices (cell phones, iPads, tablets, music players, etc.) are to remain on silent and put away during class time, unless the teacher has instructed to use them for a class activity. Failure to follow this guideline will result in confiscation of the electronic device. Continued failure to follow this guideline will result in disciplinary referral. 2. Digital recording (audio and/or video) or photography with electronic devices may not be done without prior approval of the teacher.

ASK before taking pictures of class notes or recording any activities. Failure to do so will result in confiscation of electronic device and/or disciplinary referral. 3. Practice appropriate digital citizenship at all times when using electronic devices. For our classroom, Digital Citizenship is defined as: "Critical thinking and ethical choices about the content and impact on oneself, others, and one's community of what one sees, says, and produces with media, devices, and technologies." [i] **In other words: THINK before you engage in online activities.** [1] Collier, Anne. "A Definition of Digital Citizenship." <<http://www.connectsafely.org/Commentaries-Staff/a-definition-of-digital-literacy-a-citizenship.html>>

Remind101: Students and parents may sign up to receive Remind101 class notifications regarding homework etc. by texting @lloydlit to 81010 or emailing lloydlie@mail.remind101.com.

Google Classroom: Use the code k6iw2ju to join the Google Classroom page.

Tutoring, Point Recovery, and Work-for-Work: I am available both before and after school and during Instructional Focus (IF) time for those who need additional help, support, or enrichment. Please speak to me before or after class or email me if you would like to schedule a tutoring session. Students may earn up to half the points lost on summative assessments by completing tutoring and point recovery. Students are also encouraged to take advantage of the work-for-work opportunities that will be offered at several points throughout the semester.

Contact Information: Feel free to contact me at any time, but please note that email is the preferred method of contact: cindy.lloyd@gcstk12.net. Do not hesitate to ask questions in class or to schedule an appointment if you feel you need additional help. I am available both before and after school for tutoring, remediation, and enrichment. Keep me informed of any circumstances which warrant special consideration; if I do not know that a situation exists, I cannot give it the consideration it deserves.

Teacher Website: Students and parents may access my teacher website, where I will be posting our classroom agenda and homework assignments on a daily basis, using the directory available on the Gainesville High School webpage. The staff website directory may be accessed from the Gainesville High School webpage at gcstk12.net/ghsweb by selecting the Teacher WEBSITES link from the menu on the left of the webpage and selecting Lloyd, Cindy from the main menu or directly at <http://112640155641416306.weebly.com/>.

Course Withdrawal Policy for AP/Honors: the drop/add period for all Honors and AP courses is the **first 5 days of the semester**. The request must be made to both the teacher and the appropriate counselor. A parent must acknowledge that he/she is aware of the student's request to drop the class. Students and parents must be aware that the student will be placed in another college prep class in the same subject area whenever possible, but the student may have to be placed in an elective class if there are no other courses. Students will transfer to the next lower level with a grade of 60 or their current grade, whichever is higher.

Disclaimer: this syllabus is subject to change or amendment by the teacher.

GAINESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Course Syllabus

I have read and understand all of the objectives, requirements, and expectations for the course American Literature and Composition (Honors) taught by Cindy Lloyd.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

(cut here and keep the bottom portion)

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your student needs you to be involved and supportive, to ask questions about what he or she is learning in class, and to periodically check his or her attendance and grades in PowerSchool. Please detach the top portion of this page and keep it for future reference as the information below will help you keep up with your student's progress in my class:

1. Accessing Powerschool to check attendance and grades

To access PowerSchool go to the Gainesville City Schools homepage at www.gcस्क12.net. You can access grades and attendance on PowerSchool from the Quick Links menu tab at the top of the page or through the following link <http://www.gcस्क12.net/powerschool>. The login id is the student's identification number and the password is that number followed by the letters *pw* (student id: 123456789/password: 123456789pw). If you do not know your student's identification number, you can obtain that information by contacting the GHS guidance office at (770)536-4441.

2. Accessing Ms. Lloyd's teacher webpage to check daily agenda and homework and utilizing Remind101

On my Weebly teacher webpage, I will post a bulleted agenda detailing what we have done in class each day and will list any homework that your student will be responsible for completing. The staff website directory may be accessed from the Gainesville High School webpage at gcस्क12.net/ghsweb by selecting the Teacher WEBSITES link from the menu on the left of the webpage and selecting Lloyd, Cindy from the main menu or directly at <http://112640155641416306.weebly.com/>. Students and/or parents may sign up to receive Remind101 class notifications regarding homework etc. by texting @lloydlit to 81010 or by sending an email to loydlit@mail.remind101.com.

3. Contacting Ms. Lloyd

Please take a moment to note my email address cindy.lloyd@gcस्क12.net and my phone number (678) 200-2451. If you call and I do not answer, please leave a message and I will return your call promptly.

I am looking forward to a great year! Please contact me should you have any questions or concerns throughout the semester.

Sincerely,
Ms. Lloyd