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**Course Syllabus – Virtual Learning fall 2020**

**Honors 9th Literature/Composition**

Mrs. Rionda Bell ([rionda.bell@cobbk12.org](mailto:rionda.bell@cobbk12.org))

Ms. Anna Hagan (*Student Teacher*)

Room 2204

Phone: (678)331-3961 Ext. 2204

Blog: www.mrsrbell.weebly.com

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Honor’s 9th Literature/Composition is a class which focuses on the study of reading and writing a variety of genres to include: poetry, drama, informational texts, memoir, novels, and short story. Students will continue their development of vocabulary and apply effective reading strategies to a wide range of literary and informational texts. Additionally, students will continue to refine effective writing habits and language skills as they apply to listening, viewing, thinking, and speaking. Students will produce works that include literary analysis, compare/contrast, persuasive, narrative, expository, and research examples. Assignments, activities, and assessments will provide practice toward mastery of the state standards for literature and composition standards, as well as preparation for additional honors and AP level classes.

**Textbooks:**

* Text Book – SpringBoard: English I 2021 Edition (*consumable copies are available for pickup from school*)
* Online textbook information:[**https://clever.com/in/cobb**](https://clever.com/in/cobb) **username**: student # **password**: student #

Link can also be accessed via the blog.

**Supplies*:***

* *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
* *Pre-course reading book (student choice)*
* *Independent Reading Books*
* *Computer access*
* *Post-it type sticky notes*
* *Pens/ Highlighters* ***(NO RED PENS!!!)***

*\*Texts that may be covered this semester*

**Weighted Grade Allotments:**

We will review this system in more detail as the semester progresses. If questions arise about your grades, please see me immediately.

Reading 25%  
Writing              25%  
Listening/ Speaking/ Viewing              15%

Language 15%

EOC Exam 20%

Non-standards based grades/ Life Skills 0% (Record of learning application & conduct grade)

Total 100%

*\*Papers will be graded and returned on average in a 2 week turnaround. Some assignments may be returned earlier or later than this time frame\**

**GRADING:**

CCSD Grading Scale

90-100 A 80-89 B 74-79 C 70-73 D 69 and Below F

**Final Exams/ End of Course Georgia Milestone**

A comprehensive final exam will not be given at the end of the course to assess mastery of the course; instead there will be a Unit 4 test it is split between the reading category (multiple choice) and the writing category (essay). There is a State-Mandated End-of-Course Georgia Milestone Test in 9th Literature that counts 20% of the final course grade. End-of-Course test scores are also posted on transcripts. **\**The assignment type categories and weights for this course are subject to change pending the decisions of the GA Legislature, GA BOE, and GA DOE regarding End-of-Course assessments.  If a change occurs, a revised syllabus will be provided to each student.***

**Tentative Semester Schedule (subject to change):**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Predicted Dates:** | **Unit of Study:** |
| 4 weeks | Telling Details |
| 5 weeks | Compelling Evidence |
| 4 weeks | Powerful Openings |
| 2-3 weeks | Pivotal Words/Phrases |

\*Each unit may be assessed by a test, essay, and/or project/presentation

**MAKE-UP WORK**: In keeping with school policy, all make-up work must be completed **within one week of the due date** of the assignment for an **excused** absence for full credit. It is **your** responsibility as a student to maintain make-up work or any information discussed in class while absent. **You are responsible** for asking for any make up work and assigning appointments before school for make-up tests and quizzes If you are absent, look on the class blog, ([www.mrsrbell.weebly.com](http://www.mrsrbell.weebly.com)) for the information you missed. If you missed notes while you were gone, get that information from one of your classmates or check the blog; sometimes notes appear there. If you still have questions, ask the teacher before or after class if there is time or during extra-help hours. Bottom line: **it is your responsibility**. **Long-term assignments or upcoming tests are expected to be completed on time even if absent the day prior**. You will **NOT** have a week to make up major assignments/tests/quizzes!

***Grades will be placed as a zero until any outstanding work is made up.*** *It must be done in a timely manner – for me, this means within a week of your absence. If work is not made-up within the given time frame, the grade of zero will remain as the final grade for that assignment. You must come in before or after school to make up a quiz or test - class time is rarely available to make-up work.*

**LATE-WORK:** The purpose of assignments is to aid students in acquiring the necessary skills of the class. With this being said, students are expected to turn in all assignments on time. However, students will be allowed to turn in any graded assignment throughout the unit of study. **NO LATE HOMEWORK IS ACCEPTED (That’s anything worth 10 points or less)**. If a student misses a homework assignment due to an excused absence, he/she will be permitted to make-up the assignment or will be omitted from it all together. Students will be penalized up to 5% each day up to 25% of the grade. Late major assignments (projects, essays, research paper) will be accepted but for a penalty of 10% off per day it is late. **Again**, **no late work for a unit will be accepted after the unit test has been administered. This includes vocabulary tests/mini-quizzes that occur within a unit.**

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday and Thursday 1:30 – 3:30 PM (schedule time with Ms. Bell)

**Wednesday Instructional Support Day:** there is a sign-up for Wednesdays

**Conferencing:**

Students should schedule time outside of class hours to conference with Mrs. Bell about their writing/grades. This should be done prior to an assignments due date.

**CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:**

The faculty and students at Hillgrove are a community of people working together. In order to accomplish our goals, we must treat each other with mutual respect and adhere to established expectations of behavior.

**CLASSROOM PROCEDURES**

* Once class begins be prepared with the necessary materials for class and start reviewing/working on the warm-up.
* If you need to leave the virtual classroom for any reason contact the teacher. If stepping away for a moment, you may use the “take a break” or “away” features.
* **The teacher dismisses class**. Students are to remain logged in, with cameras on, until excused.

**Virtual Learning Expectations**

Students are expected to be in class every day, arrive on time, and remain attentive, respectful, and on task throughout the entire class period.

* Be On Time: wake up early and log on a few minutes before class
* If Possible, Be In A Quiet Place: find a quiet place and check your surroundings.
* Be Prepared: computer is charged, camera is on, use headphones if you have them, first and last name are visible, along with a photo (if possible)
* Presentation: wear appropriate clothing, sit up straight, and be in camera view
* Mute Yourself: mute yourself when your teacher or another student is talking
* Participation: be focused, be attentive, and be an active participant
* 7.Chat Responsibly: raise you hand to speak, type your question in the chat box (if active)
* Communication: speak clearly, look up when speaking, stay on topic (no side conversations)
* R-E-S-P-E-C-T: be kind and be considerate

**\*Consequences** for breaking any of the above rules:

1) A verbal warning by the teacher

2) A telephone call to the parents or guardian of the student in violation of classroom rules

3) Referral to administration

**\*If misconduct is an extreme offense, consequence one, two, may be by-passed.**

**HONOR CODE/CHEATING:**

Cheating is not acceptable in any academic setting. There is no toleration!

If a student is discovered cheating, the following consequences may occur:

1. Assignment of a zero for that grade
2. Student/teacher conference
3. Parent Notification
4. Possible misconduct form to be filed in student’s disciplinary file (depends on severity of the case)

**VIP Class Technology Information**

**Class Blog, Turnitin.com, USAtestprep & Remind, Teacher Gmail accounts**

A classroom blog is available for both the student and parent to have as a tool in keeping up with classroom assignments and activities. The blog is updated each day with the daily agenda, including printable handouts, notes (when possible), and assignments. If a student misses class or has a question regarding an assignment or activity in class, this is the first place to check before coming to the teacher. You may access the blog by clicking the website link next to Rionda Bell under the English Department heading on the Hillgrove High School website. From here you will access Mrs. Bell’s blog ([www.mrsrbell.weebly.com](http://www.mrsrbell.weebly.com))

**\*See Digital Exploration document for specific login detail**

**Clever.com -** [**https://www.clever.com/in/cobb**](https://www.clever.com/in/cobb)

**Turnitin.com**

You will submit major written assignments to turnitin for grading purposes and to check the authenticity of your writing.

Turnitin.com Class ID\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Enrollment Password: **rbell**

**USATestprep**

We will use USA Test Prep as a resource to address the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE). Students will be assigned standards based assignments, tests, quizzes for extra practice and as graded assignments.

USATestprep Account ID: **hillgrovega**  (you will join your respective class once you login/set up an account)

**Remind**

Remind (formerly Remind101) is a free, safe, and simple way for teachers to communicate with students and parents. Send updates, questions, and more to any device—students and parents can receive notifications by text message, on the app, on the web, and by email.

Class Remind Code \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher Gmail Account(s)**

At times, students will be required to submit assignments to the Gmail account instead of the CCSD email account. ONLY USE THIS ACCOUNT WHEN INSTRUCTED TO.

Mrs. Bell – [mrsriondabell@gmail.com](mailto:mrsriondabell@gmail.com)

***By completing the online form, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the syllabus for Mrs. Bell’s Honors 9th Grade Literature class***

**PLEASE USE THE LINK BELOW TO COMPLETE THE FORM NO LATER THAN**

**Friday September 4, 2020**

[Click here for the Parent Form to acknowledge the receipt of this syllabus](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=-x3OL5-ROEmquMR_D8kYLfC5zfc1ddpEm9hblAv_o25UNU9ZNTZJTllSSTJXSzNGNU1RREU3UEE1RS4u)