Honors English III Course Syllabus

Southwest Guilford High School

Ms. Burroughs – Room C115

“You learn something every day if you pay attention.” -Ray LeBlond-

Course Description:

 This course is designed to give you an overview of the highlights of American Literature. Students in this course will explore fictional, historical and informational writing- widely and deeply, encompassing print and non-print texts. This course will require students to work as self-directed and reflective learners, both independently and in groups as leaders and collaborators. This semester will hold many opportunities for you, and it will be up to you whether these opportunities are taken and used, or wasted. I look forward to seeing you excel in this course. Prepare for some challenging assignments and high expectations! While this semester will be a challenge for you, I can promise you that I will be here for whatever you need help with in order to prepare for this course, other writing or reading assignments, the English III final, and English beyond high school.

**Classroom Goals:**

· Students will express reflections and reactions to literature and to personal experience.

· Students will explain meaning, describe processes, and answer research questions to inform an audience.

· Students will evaluate communication and critique texts.

· Students will make and support informed opinions.

· Students will participate in discussions and analyze literary genres, elements, & concepts.

· Students will apply conventions of grammar and language usage.

· Students will expand their knowledge of and use of words through daily vocabulary practice.

**Course Requirements:**· You are required to keep an organized binder. Notes, handouts, and daily starters (language warm-ups) will be organized into this notebook. Do not keep other course work in your English binder.

**Summer Reading:** Accelerated Reader Tests will be given on summer reading novels. An essay response is also required. The reading response should be written in paragraph format including an introduction, elaboration with supporting details, and a conclusion. The response must be typed & double-spaced for full credit. (No fancy fonts which are difficult to read.) The essay is NOT a summary; specific literary prompts will be provided by the teacher.

**Materials needed for class:**

· Small 3-ring binder with notebook paper and a couple of dividers

· PENCILS and black or blue pens

· Requested: 1 box of Kleenex tissue for the classroom (This is not provided by the school. I would appreciate your donation of 1 box of tissue to help keep the classroom well stocked. With winter colds and spring allergies, we run out frequently.) Donations of hand sanitizer are also appreciated.

**Class Expectations & Procedures:**

· Enter class in a quiet, orderly manner. Be on time and seated when the tardy bell rings.

· Begin the class starter (Lang. Warm-up) as soon as you enter. It will be posted on the board or projector.

· Be responsible. Bring ALL necessary supplies to class. Make to have a writing utensil DAILY.

· Show respect to your teacher, classmates, school equipment, and the personal belongings of others.

· Write your name on ALL work turned in. Papers without a name will receive NO credit.

· Sit in your assigned seat every day unless otherwise instructed.

· Daily attendance, cooperation, & participation are expected. Be on your best behavior at all times.

· Food and drinks (besides water) are NOT allowed in class. If having a water bottle becomes a classroom disruption, you will be asked to put it away. Repeated offenses will result in loss of the privilege.

· Cell phones and other electronic devices are NOT allowed in class.

· Bring an outside novel to class to read in case you finish your assignments early.

· Attendance: You cannot miss more than 3 days each quarter to receive class credit. If you miss more, you will be required to make up 45 min. for each day. Also, 45 minutes of missed class, counts as an absence.

**Homework and Make-up Policy:**

· ALL assignments are expected to be completed and turned in on time to obtain the maximum benefit of learning. Points will be deducted for late work. Be responsible and get your work in on time! Remember, late work will also affect your eligibility to go on freshmen incentive trips.

· When you are absent, it is your responsibility to ask for your make-up work and get it turned in on time. You have 3 days after an absence to make-up work; after that, it will be counted as a late assignment. Check the make-up work file first; if there is nothing in the file with your name on it, double check with the teacher.

· You may arrange to stay with me after school on Tuesdays & Thursdays to complete make-up test or other missed assignments.

**Grading:**

Grading is based on the Guilford County grading scale. Grades will come from a combination of tests or exams, daily assignments, homework, writing samples, notebook, and projects.

I look forward to working with you throughout the semester. Please don’t hesitate to ask if you need help with a concept covered in class or clarification on any assignment. If you want to achieve success in English I, put forth your best effort…and you will succeed! Together we can make this your best year ever!

**Need Help?**

 If at any point that you need extra assistance or have to make-up work for me, know that I will be available Monday through Thursday after school. Make sure to let me know that you are coming just in case I have meetings, or plans, that will keep me from staying after school.

\*\*\*Parents, if you want to reach me, please do not hesitate to call or email me! You or your student may schedule a conference with me at any time to review or discuss their grades.

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**Dear Parent/Guardian:**

Please help me help your child to be SUCCESSFUL!

It is my desire that your child experience success in the classroom and have a happy and positive semester. I will do everything within my power to make this happen. However, your involvement is also important. Therefore, I’m asking that you email me at burroue@gcsnc.com **by Friday, February 2nd** from the email account you check *most often*. This will enable me to keep you informed about your child and classroom events as necessary. When you email, please include the following information:

Subject Line: Your child’s first & last name and English class period

EXAMPLE: John Doe Block 1

Body: -Your first and last name

-Your relationship to the student

-The best telephone number at which you can be reached

-Anything else you would like to share which may be beneficial for me to know about your child as I work with him/her this year.

I will occasionally send brief updates to your email account so that you will be “in-the-know” on approaching due dates and happenings in my classroom. I truly believe that your awareness, encouragement, and input are valuable assets to your child’s academic achievement.

Feel free to email me any time. You may also call the school at 819-2970 and they will connect you to my room. I have 3rd period planning and will be able to take calls from 11:45 – 1:45. If you call during other times, please leave a voicemail and I will return your call as soon as I can.

\*If you do not have an email address, please write a note including the same information listed above and sign it. Please indicate how you wish to be contacted throughout the semester.

Your email/note will count as an extra credit 100 quiz grade for your child.

Thanks! Beth Burroughs