

Syllabus for 9th Grade Literature  
2024-2025 School Year

Instructor: Triola Josey-Gould

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Room Number: 2406

Tutoring: Tuesday and Wednesday from 3:00-3:30 PM

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION, OBJECTIVES,&GOALS**

This course will provide literacy experiences designed to refine listening, speaking, reading, and writing through the study of different genres.

Course objectives correlate with the *Georgia Standards of Excellence*, which can be found at <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Frameworks/ELA-9-10-Grade-9-Literature-Composition-Standards.pdf>.

Upon completing the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature course, students should be able to:

- o Read, write, speak, and listen for a variety of purposes;
- o Apply effective strategies and techniques in their own writing;
- o Demonstrate understanding of the conventions and mechanics of writing;
- o Progress effectively through the writing process;
- o Develop vocabulary for vernacular and content;
- o Analyze images and text in various modes to promote the development of critical thinking skills;
- o Develop literacy, fluency, and comprehension through in-class and out-of-class readings; and
- o Evaluate and incorporate reference documents into researched papers.

### **REQUIRED MATERIALS**

#### **Student Needed Materials:**

Pencils, pens, paper, three-pronged notebook

Independent Reading Novel (from the library or home)

#### **School Provided Materials**

Textbook: Digital HMH Into Literature: Grade 9 or hard copy if needed. The hard copy will be issued to you and will be your responsibility for replacement if lost or damaged.

Chromebook: All students are issued a district-provided chrome book for instructional purposes, student engagement, and student learning. Chromebook use is at the direction and discretion of the classroom teacher.

Novels: Various class novels throughout the year.

### **GRADES**

Grades will be computed as follows, per Veterans High School:

Major Assessments	45%
Minor Assessments	20%
Daily Work	15%
Final Exam	20%

**Infinite Campus:** Students and parents may check grades at any time on Infinite Campus. Please see the counseling office if you are having trouble with Infinite Campus.

**Late Work Policy:** STUDENTS are responsible for making up missed work after an absence. All handouts are kept in an “Absent Work” file for students to get upon their return to school. All online assignments can be viewed and completed via Canvas. Late daily work will be accepted until the end of the unit in which the work is assigned.

**Test Retakes:** Students may retake **two** exams per semester. Test retakes must be completed within **one week** of the return of the original exam. Students are not permitted to take home or photocopy any test materials, as doing so invalidates the test for all students.

**IXL:** Students will be required to utilize IXL as a means of improving specific content skills. This will be a monthly minor assessment grade which will be due on the last school day of each month. To earn full credit, students must reach a SmartScore of 80% of the four assigned skills that month. There will not be an opportunity to earn a late grade on this assignment due to the abundance of time afforded to complete it.

**Independent Sustained Reading (ISR):** Reading is an important part of our course’s curriculum and is vital in growing our students in other disciplines as well. Research shows that avid readers are far more likely to succeed both academically and professionally. In order to grow our students as successful readers, we will provide protected reading time within the classroom and support student choice in reading. We encourage parents to be involved in this reading process and engage your children in conversation regarding their reading selections. A variety of grades will be earned for this work. At a minimum, students are expected to read their selected novel in class and complete a journal entry each week.

**Exemptions:** The final exam can be exempted as per the guidance delivered in the student handbook.

- They have a B average (80 or above).
- Are absent no more than 5 days during the semester.
- Must not have been assigned to ISS or OSS during the semester.
- Must have cleared all obligations to the school
- Must not have received Hospital Homebound Services.

### **TARDIES AND ABSENCES**

See the Student Handbook for the school’s tardy policy.

When students are absent from this class, they must make sure their absence is excused through the office before being allowed to make up the work. Please see the Student Handbook for the attendance policy.

### **CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS**

1. Come to class prepared to learn: Bring all materials and a good attitude.
2. Respect yourself, the teacher, and others by keeping your hands and feet to yourself. Don’t interrupt others when they are talking during group discussions
3. Respect all ideas shared in class: Be mindful of your words. Under no circumstances will the use of derogatory, demeaning, or hateful speech be tolerated in this class.
4. Always do your best: You will never know what you are capable of if you do not try. We learn from our mistakes.

## **CLASSROOM RULES**

1. All electronic devices must be put away unless told otherwise. You should not be on your Chromebook if we are not using them for a lesson/activity. Phones will be confiscated and given to the admin if out during class–NO EXCEPTIONS.
2. Be seated at your desk and ready to learn when the bell rings. You should be actively working on the bell ringer when class begins
3. Do not cheat, plagiarize, or copy anyone else’s work.
4. Use polite and appropriate language when speaking.
5. Turn in your best work on time.
6. Students will utilize the Smart Pass procedure for bathroom breaks during class.

## **CONSEQUENCES**

Failure to obey the rules listed above as well as those outlined in the VHS Student Handbook will result in the following consequences:

1. Verbal warning and redirection
2. Parent contact
3. Afterschool Detention (from 3:00-3:30 PM)
4. Referral to office

\*\*The severity of the infraction may result in an immediate referral to the office.

## **CANVAS**

To encourage a blended learning environment, online assignments will be posted via Canvas. Students should be familiar with navigating the online platform, communicating with their teacher via the platform, and submitting assignments online.

Please note, not all assignments in Canvas will be graded via Canvas. A student’s grade is accurately reflected on Infinite Campus **only!**

## **PARENT & TEACHER COMMUNICATION**

Email is the preferred method of communication. If you need to schedule a phone conference, please email me. Parent teacher conferences must be scheduled through the school’s counseling office.

## Syllabus for 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature

Student Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Class Period: \_\_\_\_\_

### Syllabus Contract

*I have read and understand all the policies and requirements listed on the student's syllabus.*

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

### **Parent/Guardian Information:**

Parent/Guardian Print Name:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Best Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Best time to reach you at this number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Email Communication

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_

