

## 9th Grade Honors English

Carolyn Gilman, room 501

cgilman@osd.wednet.edu

Textbook: *Literature: Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes*; Prentice Hall (Homer's *The Odyssey*)  
Novels may include: *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee      *Great Expectations*, Charles Dickens  
Drama: *Romeo and Juliet*, William Shakespeare      *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Oscar Wilde

**Course Content:** Ninth grade honors English will focus on refining and improving writing, reading, critical thinking, speaking and research skills through the study of literature, including novels, short stories, drama and poetry. Each student will have a folder in class in which to keep all writing and class materials. Vocabulary and grammar will be taught throughout the year.

### Supplies

- A one-inch binders
- A composition notebook.
- Post-It Notes (standard size) for annotating the texts.
- Highlighter pens or tape.
- Every student will need to purchase *Word Power Made Easy* for approximately \$6.50. Students will be required to read and study lessons for weekly vocabulary quizzes.

**Technology Focus:** Students will create a personal English blog to use as a place to supplement class discussions and practice writing. A weekly blog post and commenting on classmates' blogs will be required for class credit. Assignments will be posted weekly on Mrs. Gilman's blog: **greathonorsenglish.blogspot.com**

### Grading

Grades will be based on writing assignments, homework, projects, in-class activities, journals, tests, quizzes, and participation. Grades will be posted on Skyward. In order for you to be aware of your progress, please check your grade online.

93-100%	A	78-79.9%	C+
90-92.9%	A-	73-77.9%	C
88-89.9%	B+	70-72.9%	C-
83-87.9%	B	68-69.9%	D+
80-82.9%	B-	60-67.9%	D (no D- at OHS)

**The final grade is based on total points earned. Grades are not rounded.**

### Policies

- HALF CREDIT will be given any and all late assignments. If you decide to turn in completed, quality late work, it must be turned in within the six-week grading period during which it was due. In order to have the opportunity for extra credit, you must have ALL work turned in. If you have one missing assignment during that six-week period, you will not be eligible for extra credit opportunities.
- MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE TURNED IN ON OR BEFORE THE DATE DUE REGARDLESS OF ABSENCE. If this is impossible, students (or parents) must email me at cgilman@osd.wednet.edu.
- If you have extenuating circumstances preventing you from turning in an assignment, please contact me PRIOR to the due date.
- Regular attendance and active participation in daily classroom activities are important factors contributing to success in this class. Generally, work assigned before the student was absent is due on the day he or she returns to class. Students are allowed one day for each day absent to make up work assigned while absent.
- An on-going record of assignments, activities and due dates for this class is available on my page of the OHS web site, including access to handouts and assignments. It is the student's responsibility to check the web page to find out what was missed and download any assignments.

### Expectations of Classroom Conduct:

- Students are expected to treat others with respect at all times.
- Students are expected to be in class on time and prepared every day. Olympia High School follows a strict attendance and tardy policy, which will be enforced in this class.
- Students are expected to remain in class for the duration of the period.

- Phones must be turned off and out of sight. At appropriate times, students may have access to phones for online dictionaries or research purposes.
- Students are expected to complete all reading assignments on time.
- I will put time and energy into planning creative lessons and assignments. I expect students to receive assignments and lessons with a positive attitude. If you are experiencing any type of problem with an assignment or lesson, or other class procedure, please see me. I will be available to help you before school, by email or by appointment.

#### **Participation and Classroom Conduct:**

- Class discussions and group activities will benefit you greatly on tests and quizzes. You must participate in discussion and activities in order to receive full participation points.
- Appropriate, attentive and respectful classroom conduct is essential for your success and benefits everyone in the classroom.
- Participation points will be used in calculating your grade for the class. Follow the class policies outlined below in order to receive full participation points.

#### **Participation / Classroom Conduct Grading Scale**

**90-100% A:** Student is almost always: on time for class, ready with materials, listening attentively, avoiding side conversations, staying in the room for the whole period, having a positive attitude, contributing to discussions, working on task during class

**80-89% B:** Student needs to work on at least one of these behaviors: attendance, on time for class, ready with materials, listening attentively, avoiding side conversations, staying in the room for the whole period, having a positive attitude, contributing to discussions, working on task during class

**70-79% C:** Student needs to work on several of these behaviors: attendance, on time for class, ready with materials, listening attentively, avoiding side conversations, staying in the room for the whole period, having a positive attitude, contributing to discussions, working on task during class

**60-69% D:** Many times this student contributes to the class in negative ways, by not following enough of these expectations: on time for class, ready with materials, listening attentively, keeping electronic devices in backpack, avoiding side conversations, staying in the room for the whole period, having a positive attitude, contributing to discussions, working on task during class

**0-59% F:** Behavior may interfere with learning of others, needs to work on the following: on time for class, ready with materials, listening, keeping electronic devices in backpack, avoiding side conversations, staying in the room for the whole period, having a positive attitude, contributing to discussions, working on task during class. Student may have been sent to study hall due to behavior or attendance issues

#### **Cheating**

***Cheating is taking another's work and calling it your own so that you derive the benefit.***

Cheating defeats the purpose of education Any and all forms of cheating will result in disciplinary action.

Cheating includes but is not limited to:

- Exchanging answers or assignments with others. This includes exchanging answers by electronic or recorded means and then submitting them as "original" work.
- Using hidden reference sheets during a test.
- Using programmed material in electronic devices when prohibited (as in on tests.)
- Submitting someone else's assignment as your own, in whole or part.
- Submitting material (written or designed by someone else) without giving credit to the source (plagiarizing information from the Internet or other source or submitting work done by family, friends or tutors.)
- Taking credit for group work when little contribution was made.
- Stealing tests, answers, or materials, or having unauthorized possession of such materials.
- Sabotaging or destroying the work of others.
- Submitting the same work in more than one course without the knowledge and approval of the teachers.
- Not following the guidelines specified by the teacher during a test (i.e. talking), or for a "take-home" test or exam.
- Altering the posting date of blogs that are completed past the due dates.

#### **Olympia High School Plagiarism Policy:**

**1st offense: Failing (zero) grade on assignment and disciplinary action.**

**2nd offense: Failing grade in course**

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

To ensure the success of our students, please read the information on this syllabus carefully. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at any time. Please include a way that I may contact you so that we may have open communication, further assuring the success of all students.

Student Name (please print)

Student Signature

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Parent Name

Parent Signature

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Parent Daytime Phone Number

Parent E-mail Address

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I look forward to a fun and exciting year.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Gilman

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