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##### ATHENS DRIVE HIGH SCHOOL

Mrs. Covert’s English Syllabus

2nd rm 2400; 3rd & 4th rm 2408

**Contact Information**

To receive notices of due dates and other information, please sign up with Remind. Parents are welcome to join! Text the code listed to 81010. We will visit the library almost every week to practice for the NCFE / EOC using [www.commonlit.org](http://www.commonlit.org). The guided questions count as classwork and the assessment counts as a quiz (Eng. II) or as writing to practice the APES format (Eng. I).

REMIND COMMON LIT

English I Honors kaaegd J377RB

English II Honors 49b32d D6KKPJ

English II e78hff 7WJJDY

I am usually available for conferences from 7:45-8:45 or between 2:30-3:30 p.m. Call the front office to schedule an appointment: 919-233-4050.

*Thank you so much for blessing me with an opportunity to share in a learning journey with you! We’re going to have a fabulous semester together!*

**Goals**

1. To strive for proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language.

2. To prepare yourself for the challenges of life after high school through academic discipline and character development.

3. To build acceptance, respect, and support in our classroom with an emphasis on interpersonal communication, cultural awareness, and an appreciation of diversity.

4. To increase vocabulary and maintain (or initiate) a love of reading and learning.

5. To master the objectives delineated by the N.C. Standard Curriculum and obtain progressive educational growth. View the N.C. Standards for English Language Arts at this website: http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/docs/curriculum/languagearts/scos/ncscs-ela.pdf

These are the *critical thinking skills* you will develop throughout this course. They are the *objectives* that will be addressed through the works studied and tasks performed for this course. They are also a foundation to your *growing knowledge* in future courses beyond English content.

**Materials**

**Electronic Devices.** This is **not** required but if you are comfortable bringing your own laptop to school, you are encouraged to do so. I will provide paper copies and links on the website, but for your convenience, you can share via Google docs. This saves paper and provides cleaner handwriting for me to read! ☺ *I am not a technology teacher, so be sure you are familiar with how to use the software apps.*

**Notebook:** You should have paper, your SSR book, and a 3-ring binder every day for class. Dividers can help you with organizational skills which correlate directly to academic success. You will have sections for Vocabulary, Literary Analysis, Grammar, and Notes/Hand-outs.

**Supplies:** I prefer that you use black or blue ink pen rather than pencil. Do not annoy and depend on your classmates by borrowing materials. I also prefer if you can turn in typed double-spaced assignments printed out rather than hand-written ones. When we have creative projects, I encourage you to bring your own creative supplies such as crayons, colored pencils, markers, glue, scissors, construction paper, glitter, paint, fuzzy balls, pipe cleaners, etc. I have some of these things available to share.

**Expectations and Regulations**

1. Come prepared to learn: books, paper, ink, binder, and ***a positive attitude***.
2. Respect is essential! Give respect to each other, the teacher, the school community, and any property.
3. Any form of bullying or dishonesty, including cheating, will be addressed with appropriate consequences. Make choices wisely.
4. Follow standard school rules in your handbook.

**Transitions:** Throwing away paper, sharpening pencils, and changing seats should occur quickly. It is not an opportunity to socialize, roam, or otherwise waste time that could be devoted to instructional activities.

**Attendance:** The data shows that grades are higher for students with better attendance rates. In other words, you have to be here to do the work! This includes being prepared to start when the bell rings and remaining engaged until the end of the period. Tardiness disrupts the environment for yourself, me, and your classmates. Be considerate and responsible. Even if you are here physically, make an effort to be fully present and focused mentally.

**Bathrooms & Water:**  In addition to the first ten/ last ten-minute rule, leaving class is discouraged. You miss important information and participation. You should have enough time during transitions and lunch to take care of business. Unless there is an emergency, please wait to leave class until after I have finished the lesson and given you time to work independently. Always ask permission and follow the procedure of signing out. If you are not in the classroom for more than 20 minutes, you will be written up for skipping.

All misbehavior will be documented regardless of severity to be referenced during parent conferences. You are aware of the disciplinary process and mature enough to make the right choices.

**1st offense**: General announcement to serve as a reminder of expectations

**2nd offense**: Specific verbal warning. I expect you to change your attitude and get motivated to participate in a positive manner.

**3rd offense:** Parent Contact

**4th offense**: Office Referral

These offenses *accumulate* much like interest on a credit card.If I have to redirect your behavior three times in one week, then you are not practicing self-discipline. Once I *attempt* to contact parents, you will be written up for the next incident of misbehavior. The immediate infraction may be simple, but it represents a disruptive pattern, which constitutes multiple instances of minor insubordination.

**It is my ethical responsibility to create an atmosphere of active, engaged learning for all students. If you are preventing this, even in small subversive ways, you will be removed.**

**Grading Policy** **Eng II -H English II English I English I -H**

Projects, essays, unit assessments 50% 40% 30% 35%

Quizzes (literature, vocab) 25% 30% 20% 20%

Homework / Classwork 25% 30% 25% 20%

Writing 25% 25%

**Demonstration of Mastery**

Athens Drive Magnet School is committed to maintaining rigorous performance and achievement standards for all students and to providing a fair and consistent process for evaluating and reporting student progress that is understandable to students and their parents/guardians and relevant for instructional purposes.

Assignments will hold value so that a student's effort on tests and homework will both be significant but neither will "make or break" the final grade. Therefore, it is essential to follow the wisdom of the Tortoise in Aesop's fable: Slow and steady wins the race. Consistency is key, but we strive for evidence of progress. *Quality of a student's work is far more important to me than the number that it supposed to reflect it.*

**Test Corrections**

Every student will have the opportunity to perform corrections on each major test during Advantage Time. The purpose of test corrections is to allow students to show mastery of material they did not show during the initial assessment. If a student fails a test, corrections are mandatory, and only half of the credit can be earned back.

**Make-up Work**

Students are accountable for all coursework even if they are not present in class. It is the student’s responsibility to get their assignments from the appropriate folder in the classroom AND consult with a classmate to ensure no work is missed. Assignments have “soft” deadlines; when the pile has been graded and returned, it is official late. It is my expectation that you make up tests and quizzes during the next Advantage time or sooner so that peers can receive prompt feedback.

**Advantage Time**

Students will have the opportunity to complete make up work and receive small group and one-on-one instruction during the Wednesday Advantage time for the last 24 minutes of class. Students who have missing assignments OR below a 75% will be required to participate.

**Homework**

According to the Board of Education policy, homework reinforces learning and fosters independence, responsibility, and self-direction. Completing homework is essential so that students are prepared to review the material the following day and make corrections. Homework should fulfill the following purposes:

* 1. To enrich and extend school experiences through related home activities.
  2. To reinforce learning by providing practice and application
  3. Students should be prepared for nightly homework in all subjects.

**Late Work**

All assignments are due at the beginning of class. In Honors level classes, late homework will be a 60%. In academic courses, it is a deduction of ten points each week. Late homework can be submitted up to one week before the grading period ends for correct, quality completion.

**Ethics**

All students are expected to show integrity in their academic work. Students should not engage in cheating, plagiarism, falsification of work, or other activities outlined in WCPSS Board Policy 4309. Student behaviors that are in violation of this policy will be addressed through appropriate discipline and grading as outlined by the Student Code of Conduct.

**Content / Curriculum**

The weekly agenda is posted on the board and the class website.

You will be given an overview of materials we will explore. It will be tentative based on student needs, inclement weather, or other unexpected changes in the schedule.

The materials are chosen as rigorous reading to examine the literary craft, to include the magnet theme of global health, and to increase awareness of societal concerns or themes across cultures. Activities are designed to help students become college and career ready by emphasizing critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity.

Each unit will have examples of fiction, informational articles, poetry, drama, and media. Purchasing return the signature form by February 2nd.

“I pledge to be honest and fair. I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this test or assignment.”

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge that I read Mrs. Covert’s syllabus.

Printed student name

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed student name date phone contact for Remind (optional)

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge that I read Mrs. Covert’s syllabus.

Printed guardian name

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Signed guardian name date preferred contact

Other contact information: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Any academic, social, emotional, or behavioral concerns to help me serve you: