**AP Literature and Composition**

**Course Syllabus**

12th Grade Ms. Andrea Verschaeve

British Literature averschaeve@piedmontclassical.com

**Course Overview:**

This British Literature and writing course builds on skills of literary analysis and composition which students have developed in previous grades, with a special emphasis on preparation for the AP Literature and Composition exam. The class emphasizes critical reading, critical thinking, academic writing, and active participation in discussions, group projects, and presentations.

This course will first and foremost use primary texts from which we will base readings, classroom discussions, and papers. We will supplement primary sources with the Glencoe Literature textbook. I will include a book list in the material I send home (or make available via my website) as I finalize texts.

**Textbook:**

*Glencoe Literature: The Reader’s Choice*. Glencoe/McGraw Hill (2000)

**Materials Needed**:

Pens (any color except red), Pencils, Loose Leaf Notebook Paper, 1” to 2” Binder (you may share a binder with another class), 3 Hole Pocket Folder, Colored Pencils, Highlighter, 3 Dividers. Primary texts as needed.

**Grading Scale and Breakdown of Grading:**

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F = 59 and below.

Engagement (homework, discussion, classwork, etc.) 50%

Tests/Projects/Major Essays 35%

Quizzes/Minor Essays 15%

All students will be permitted to make test corrections. In order to earn points back, a student must review the material and conference with me and demonstrate understanding of the material in question. No more than 10 points can be earned back; therefore, it is imperative that students study and understand the materials by the test date. This process must be initiated within three days of receiving the test grade.

Advanced Placement courses are taught at the college level. Because of this, students will be expected to critically think in more depth and detail.

If your student needs help in my class, I am available most days before or after school. Feel free to speak with me to set up a time.

**Power School and Website:**

Grades and the assignments page on my school website will be updated no later than Friday evenings so that you may check the progress and upcoming assignments of your student. Please keep in mind, essays take longer to grade than other assignments, but I will grade them in a timely manner. To get to my school website as soon as it is available, go to www.piedmontclassical.com, click on staff and choose my name, Andrea Verschaeve. If you need to contact me, please use my school email at averschaeve@piedmontclassical.com. Follow the instructions below to sign up to receive all my class reminders.

**General Classroom Expectations:**

My English classes are based on notetaking, reading, discussing, and questioning. Disrespect to me or another student for any reason will not be tolerated. I foster an environment where students feel comfortable to read aloud, discuss, and ask questions. We have a lot of material to master, so everyone must do his/her part to make sure that we all learn in a safe, friendly classroom. If you become disruptive, hostile, or disrespectful, I will verbally correct your behavior. On the second occurrence, I will contact your parents. On the third occurrence, I will refer you to the office.

Bullying will NOT be tolerated! Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose. Anyone participating in bullying will be referred to the office. For more information on bullying, visit the link below.

http://www.stopbullying.gov/what-is-bullying/definition/#types

Phones must be on silent and put away while in my class unless otherwise instructed. If I see your phone, I will ask you to put it away. If I see it again, I will take your phone and return it at the end of class. After I’ve removed your phone once, I will send your phone to the office and it may be picked up at the end of the day by you or your parent, depending on the offence.

**Attendance:** Daily attendance is essential to academic success. Students are expected to attend school daily. In the event that a student needs to miss school, the absence may be excused if the absence has 1) been approved in advance or 2) falls into one of the excused absence categories. A parent note is required within three days of the student’s return to school to be excused. Class work and homework that is missed due to an unexcused absence may be made up, but it will be recorded at no more than 50%. Students are responsible for getting all missed work. They are expected to check weebly, ask a peer, or ask me. Students have 3 school days to turn in missed work.

**Tardies:** Students are expected to be in class on time. Excessive tardiness disrupts classroom instruction and exhibits disrespect to me and the other students in class. Three or more tardies to my class in one quarter will be considered excessive. Parents will be notified if tardiness becomes excessive. Class time missed due to excessive tardies may need to be made up.

**Late Work:**

I do accept late work up to three days past the original due date for 50% of the grade.

*This syllabus is a tentative outline of this course and may be updated as deemed necessary by the instructor. Make sure you fill out the information sheet for my class and sign the bottom indicating you and your student have read and understand the contents of this syllabus. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me.*