

Literature & Composition II

Ms. Whipple

Room 85 – (724) 962-8300 Ext. 1085

ewhipple@sasdpride.org



Course Description

This course continues to develop students' skills of formal literature criticism and effective oral and written communication skills. Chosen literature includes traditional canonical pieces, continues to explore the range of literary genre, and addresses historical connections (as preparation for American survey in Literature and Composition 3). Students will focus strongly on developing writing style and oral presentation skills. All students taking Literature & Composition 2 will take the Keystone Literature Exam at the conclusion of the course.



Class Expectations

1. Listen and follow directions.
2. Raise your hand before speaking.
3. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
4. Respect your classmates and your teacher.
5. Use technology appropriately.

The purpose of these rules is to **give every student a full chance to learn every day**. Consequences for breaking the above rules in a class period are as follows:

1st instance: WARNING

2nd instance: RELOCATE (Student will be asked to move to a different seat.)

3rd instance: LETTER HOME (See attached.)



Grading Policy

Assessments: Tests, quizzes, formal essays, and major projects.

Assignments: Homework and classwork, such as Article of the Week, Independent Reading Assignments, informal writing, and discussions.

Participation: Students will receive a participation grade each nine weeks that will count for approximately 10% of their final grade. In addition to the listed consequences for failing to meet expectations, each rule infraction will result in a loss of participation points.

Late Work will lose one letter grade for each day it is late. After five days, the assignment will only be accepted if it is completed during tutoring.

Absent students should get missed assignments from the absent work binder. Students have as many days as were missed (up to five days) to complete make-up work. Barring extreme circumstances, due dates established before the absence will not change.



Required Materials

Students must bring the following items to **every** class:



3-ring binder



Pencil



Notebook



Independent Reading novel

I also highly recommend using a planner, not just for this class, but for all courses. Time management is an invaluable skill that is only developed with practice.

If you ask to go back to your locker for materials after the bell has rung, you are missing instructional time. Therefore, you will lose a participation point for the day.



Binder Setup

By the second week of school, students must have a two- or three-inch binder set up with the following tabs:



HOMEWORK: Keep items that need your attention outside of class in this tab.



LITERATURE/UNITS: Materials related to the novels, short stories, articles, etc. we are studying in class. As we complete each unit, you may remove the materials here and store them elsewhere.



ARTICLE OF THE WEEK (AoW): Articles, Reading for Meaning statements, and two-paragraph response materials.



LATIN/GREEK: Keep all of your Latin and Greek lists, as well as your quizzes, in this tab.



WRITING: Any materials related to pre-writing, drafting, editing, or revision.



Google Classroom

Reminders, assignments, and materials are posted on my Google Classroom page. Register for Google Classroom by going to www.classroom.google.com, logging in with your SASD email address and password, and entering the Class Code below:

qbtcrrpo

I do my best to keep all due dates and materials updated on Classroom; however, **students are ultimately responsible** for keeping track of information as provided in class. Again, I highly suggest recording all assignments and dates in a planner.



Tutoring

SOS tutoring is available after school on Wednesdays from 2:50-3:30. Students may schedule tutoring by appointment before school from 7:00-7:45 or after school from 2:50-3:30.

Any student with a **failing grade** and/or who has **three or more missing assignments** will receive a notice that must be signed and returned by a parent or guardian (see attached).



Other Policies

Cell Phones are to remain silenced and out of sight (NOT on your desk) unless specifically permitted by the teacher. Using a cell phone during class will affect your participation grade for the day.

Classroom Library: Use the library binder to sign out the books and make sure you note when you returned it. Place returned books in the crate next to the shelves.

Hall Passes: Students must sign in and out of the classroom and take the hall pass. Wait until an appropriate time to ask for a pass to use the restroom, get a drink, or get an item from your locker. Do not interrupt instruction to ask for a hall pass.

Please sign and return the section below by Monday, September 11 (10 points).

I have read and understand the class expectations and policies for Ms. Whipple's Lit Comp II class. If I have any questions or concerns, I know that I can contact Ms. Whipple at ewhipple@sasdpriide.org or (724) 962-8300 ext. 1085.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

What is your preferred contact method? ☐ Phone ☐ Email ☐ Other

ATTACHMENT I: THIRD INSTANCE LETTER HOME

Dear Parents/Guardians,

_____ broke the following rules today, _____:

___ Listen and follow directions.

___ Raise your hand before speaking.

___ Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.

___ Respect your classmates and your teacher.

___ Use technology appropriately.

When a student breaks a rule three times in a single class period, I send this letter home. I do this because I believe that, with good communication, we can work as a team to avoid future instances of repeated misbehavior.

My classroom rules are aimed at protecting the rights of every student to learn and enjoy school. By choosing not to follow them, your child interfered with those rights today. I have no ill will toward your child, and I know that we all make mistakes. What matters is whether we use those mistakes to improve ourselves for tomorrow.

Should your child have this problem again, it may be necessary to move on to the school's discipline code (Student Handbook pages 27-31).

Please sign your name at the bottom of this letter and have your child return it to me tomorrow.

Thank you for your support. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Ms. Emily Whipple

ewhipple@sasdpride.org

(724) 962-8300 ext. 1085

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Student Signature _____

ATTACHMENT 2: MISSING WORK/TUTORING FORM

SOS Tutoring Notice

Student: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This letter is to notify you that your son/daughter currently has three missing assignments and/or a failing grade:

Assignment #1: _____

Assignment #2: _____

Assignment #3: _____

Current Grade: _____

The high school provides after school SOS tutoring for English classes on Wednesdays from 3:00-3:30. Failing students are required to attend SOS tutoring.

Tutoring is also available in my classroom before or after school by appointment. I strongly encourage students who are not failing but are missing three or more assignments to see me to schedule an appointment and complete the assignments for up to 60%.

According to the district handbook, "The philosophy of the [SOS] program will be such that we can successfully teach all students and not allow them to get so far behind that there are no hopes of them passing" (p. 50). I hope to work as a team with both you and your child to provide a foundation for future success in my class.

Please sign the bottom of this letter and have your son/daughter return it to me tomorrow. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Ms. Emily Whipple
ewhipple@sasdpride.org
(724) 962-8300 ext. 1085

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____