

## Tenth Grade Literature and Composition

**Instructor – Ms. Meneshea Wilkins,**

**Room: H214**

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**Course Description** – This course is designed to introduce the student to works of literature from around the world with an emphasis on particular authors and their poems, dramas, novels, non-fiction texts, and short stories. Students will receive daily instruction and supported practice in reading, writing, speaking, and vocabulary enhancement as well as grammar and usage skills.

### **Learning Targets-**

- Students will grow as individuals equipped for lifelong, self-directed learning.
- Students will improve grammar and usage competencies for fluid writing and speech.
- Students will strengthen writing and vocabulary abilities for effective conveyance of ideas to others.
- Students will enhance reading comprehension skills and will understand the connections between literary texts and the readers' lives.
- Students will refine listening, speaking, and viewing skills necessary for proficient interaction with others.

**Course Materials** – For this course, students are asked to obtain a notebook, a folder for storing loose handouts and materials, and appropriate writing utensils.

**Course Resources** - Electronic and print resources will be utilized as texts for this course. All class-required resources, including texts, handouts, audio recordings, and supplemental electronic resources will be posted in the course Schoology profile.

### **Extended Text** –

This year, our class will be reading *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros and *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah. These novels have been approved by the district and support the curriculum. If you wish for your student to have an alternate assignment, please contact me at [mwilkins@cartersvilleschools.org](mailto:mwilkins@cartersvilleschools.org).

**Tests and Projects-** Different modes of assessment are included in each unit to ensure that students are progressing toward mastery of the unit objectives. Modes of assessment include tests, quizzes, presentations, essays, and other types of long-form writing. Students will receive notification of all summative assessments and projects at least three class days in advance.

### **English Department Assessment Policy/ Absences & Make-Up Work**

In the event of a student's absence, it is the responsibility of the student to make up missed work.

For any **formative assignment**, students have three school days to turn in the work for late credit. Each late day results in a 10-point deduction from the student's calculated grade. After three days, the student will receive a zero.

For any **summative assignments** not submitted by the five-day deadline each late day results in a 10-point deduction from the student's calculated grade. After the five days, students will earn a maximum of 70. Failure to make up work or test will result in a zero. *It is the student's responsibility to communicate with their teacher regarding make-up work.*

**Method of Evaluation** - Each student's final course grade is determined by total performance over the course of the semester. All grades will be placed into the following categories, which will comprise your semester grade:

Formative Assessment– 40%

Summative Assessment– 60%

Mid-Term/Final Exams - 10% Per Semester

**Grade Reporting** – Parents and students are encouraged to utilize Infinite Campus in order to monitor ongoing academic progress and attendance. If you have not obtained your personalized parent username and password for this tool, please contact the CHS front office staff at (770) 382-3200 for assistance. In addition to online reporting, consolidated progress reports are printed and sent home via students on a regular basis.

**Focused Student Assistance** – Beginning in September, FAB tutorial sessions are offered to students on the first Wednesday of each month following early general dismissal. Detailed policies and procedures for FAB along with a complete list of FAB dates for the 2024/2025 academic year are sent home with students on the first day of school.

**Classroom Policies and Procedures** – Students will be informed of class rules and procedures during the first week of this course. Students are also expected to follow the system-wide Canes' Code.

**Consequences of Behavioral Infractions** – Failure to comply with the established class rules will result in the following consequences depending upon the severity and/or frequency of the infraction: teacher warning, counseling, and/or detention; parent/coach/sponsor contact, and/or administrative referral. Teacher detention will be held as necessary on a weekly basis. Detention must be served within one-week of assignment to avoid administrative referral.

**Leaving the Classroom** - Students are expected to remain in the classroom. In order to accommodate the occasional urgent needs, each student will be given four hall passes per semester. Additional passes will not be granted unless a parent/guardian communicates extenuating circumstances to me.

**Academic Integrity** – Cheating/Plagiarism is considered a serious offense!

The parents of a student who has been involved in cheating will be notified and the student will receive a grade of zero for the test or quiz and possibly more serious consequences, as outlined in the CHS Student Handbook.

For this course, cheating is defined as, but is not limited to, the following acts:

- Copying anyone's answers to questions, exercises, study guides, classwork, or homework assignments.
- Taking any information verbatim from any source, including the Internet, without giving proper credit to the author, or rearranging the order of words and/or changing some words as written by the author and claiming the work as his or her own, i.e., plagiarism.
- Looking onto another student's paper during a test or quiz.
- Having available any study notes or other test aids during a test or quiz without the teacher's permission.
- Collaborating on assignments when independent work is expected.
- Students using or displaying cell phones, electronic devices, or digital cameras during tests and/or quizzes will have these items confiscated and will be given a zero for that test or quiz.

**AI Tools** - You are expected to generate your own work in this class. When you submit any kind of work, you are claiming that you have generated and written it, unless you indicate otherwise by the use of quotation marks and proper identification of a source. Submitting content that has been generated by someone other than you or was created or assisted by a computer application or tool, including artificial intelligence (AI tools such as Chat GPT) is cheating. You may use simple word processing tools to update spelling and grammar in your assignments, but you may not use AI tools to draft, edit revise or paraphrase your work.

There may be opportunities for you to use AI tools in this class. Where they exist, I will clearly specify when and in what capacity it is permissible for you to use these tools. All forms of plagiarism, regardless of intent, will result in a zero for the assignment, parent, and administrative contact.

Sign below indicating you understand and accept the course requirements as outlined in the syllabus.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_