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Sports Literature

Game On

The Road to Success is Always Under Construction

You are responsible for the information detailed in this syllabus. Put this someplace safe and available to use when needed. The calendar and book/movie list is subject to change.

Sports literature will follow the important themes and historical periods through the eyes of athletes and sports. We will read several novels and short stories that have to do with sports but also life and human nature. We will also study several popular sports movies and documentaries.

Scope and Sequence

3rd Quarter

Great Writing assignment

Opening Questions and reading (Informational)

Writing News articles (all semester)

Weekly articles (informational all semester)

Sexual Harassment

Boston reading

Economics of Sports

Money Ball

Draft

Broke

Informational Reading

Athletic Shorts

Test

Socratic Seminar

Best Sports Writing 2010

Socratic Discussion

Comparative essay (MLA)

Is it a sport? (Argument paper MLA)

Bracket challenge

4th Quarter

Sports advertising

Presentation

Blind Your Ponies

Theme Paper (MLA)

Miracle

Locker room Pep talk
 Speech dissection and analysis (APA)
The Charge of the Light Brigade
 Sports poetry or Poetry about life
Calvin Ball
What is an Athlete?
Cheating
 Gambling
 Point Shaving
 Drugs

Sports Writing

While this is an English class, and we will write essays, once a month the school newspaper will hold a contest to print the best sports story written by the class. Once a month you will have to attend a sports game, and write a story about the game. We will also write papers and stories about the themes we see in sports in the world, the country and even locally. See more about this on the document entitled "Sports Writing Contest."

Homework

Since much of the class time will be spent in discussion, watching sports movies and documentaries, or preparing presentations and group work, much of your homework will be writing and reading based. You will often be asked to come to class with stories and ideas that you secure from the Internet or newspapers. If you do not have access to the Internet or to a newspaper at home then you must make arrangements to complete the assignment at school.

Socratic Seminars

In this class we will hold several Socratic Seminars. These will require you to come to class prepared with talking points about what we have been reading or discussing in class. Please see the attached handout about Socratic Seminars.

Movies

As you can see we will view documentaries and movies. If you miss a class where we are viewing a movie it will be up to you to come in and watch what you missed on your own time. Anything that we watch I consider important and will be a part of the tested curriculum.

Tests

There will be tests and quizzes in this class. While I want to make sure that you understand the plot and characters in the books, movies and documentaries we study, only about half of each quiz or test will be asking those questions. At least half of each test or quiz will be looking for an understanding of theme. What are these stories saying about human nature, about life?

SSR

You will have two SSR book assignments this semester. Third quarter you must read a biography or autobiography of a sports persona, fourth quarter will be an underdog story, whether sports related or not. You must get this passed by me before you can use it as your SSR book.

Every early out will also be SSR days for the class. This means that you must bring your book and read through the period. Each SSR period is worth 10 points in the grade book and can be made up at home

if you are absent. You must only bring a note saying that you read for ½ hour signed by a parent, guardian, or teacher.

Parent Permission and Signatory Section

It is very important to me that parents and guardians know what is being taught in the classroom. Please read the list above and make sure that you know what your son or daughter is reading and watching. If you have any questions about the material don't hesitate to contact me, If you are uncomfortable with any of the above listed books or movies, I will give your student an alternate assignment.

Initials: _____

I also ask for your support with my policies. Please read the syllabus and I am available if there are any questions at charliea@bigfork.k12.mt.us, or 406-837-7420 x242 Initials:

I wholeheartedly believe that tardiness is unacceptable. This being said I will keep track of those tardies as the school year progresses. If I must, I will keep your son or daughter after school to make up time lost for being late. 5 tardies = one hour after school or before school with Mrs. Shanks or myself. More than 2 unexcused tardies will result in removal from the honors program.

Initials: _____

Finally, I also think it is important to stay in touch with parents during the school year, not only when problems arise, but to make sure problems do not arise. If you would like to be a part of my E-Mail list, please put it on the line below. It is also important that you know your son or daughter's PIN number for checking the PASS system and his or her My Big Campus login information.

This piece of paper is the first assignment of the year. It is due by Friday of the first week of the semester.

Parent or Guardian Name

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature

Parent or Guardian E-Mail

Student Name

Student Signature

Date

