

# HONORS SYLLABUS

## 7TH GRADE ENGLISH HONORS

MR JOHNSON | 2019-2020

### OBJECTIVE

Our goal this year is to build, utilize, and refine our reading, writing, and communication skills to become more engaged, effective, and cognizant people. We will study writing, grammar and mechanics of language as well as continuing to explore literature in various genres. Learning will be demonstrated a variety of ways including tests, quizzes, papers, projects, presentations, debates and creative writings.

### GRADING BREAKDOWN

Bigfork Middle School Grading Scale is as follows:

- 100%-90% - A
- 89%-80% - B
- 79%-70% - C
- 69%-60% - D
- 59%-lower - F

### MAKE UP WORK (MISSED CLASSES)

If you miss a class, YOU are responsible for checking the whiteboard for information about activities and work you may have missed. Ask your peers for clarification of directions before or after class. If you need

### REQUIRED MATERIALS

- \*3 ring binder
- \*Pens or pencils (all year)
- \*Spiral or Comp notebook for English class only!
- \*Glue stick or similar
- \*Loose-leaf paper for assignments
- \*Colors (colored pencils or markers)

### READING LIST

**Please show this list to your parents so they can be aware of your studies. The following will be read during 7<sup>th</sup> grade with Mr. Johnson:**

- 1) *Out of the Dust*
- 2) *Uglies*
- 3) *The Big Burn*
- 4) *The Darkest Hour*
- 5) *Sherlock Holmes: The Adventure of the Red-Headed League*
- 6) *Montana Chillers: 13 True Tales of Ghosts and Hauntings*
- 7) *The Odyssey*

### PARTIAL READING LIST

**OTHER NOVELS, SHORT STORIES, POEMS AND TEXTBOOK EXCERPTS YOU MAY READ INCLUDE:**

- 1) *Sweetgrass Basket*
- 2) *Various short stories and poems from the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature Text Book.*

*\*As the year progresses, there is the possibility that additional texts will be added as needed.*

additional help from Mr. Johnson, please arrange to come in during lunch, or before or after school, DO NOT INTERRUPT class time.

- All assignments, quizzes, tests or projects are due ONE DAY AFTER YOUR ABSENCE. Quizzes and tests must be redone outside of class.

#### FOOD POLICY

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I understand you have a late lunchtime, and having a quick snack in class will be allowed; however, full lunch consumption will not be allowed in English class! The rule of thumb is: if you can hold your snack in your lap while you are actively writing or reading you can have it in class. No lunches unpacked onto your desk taking up desk/learning space. THIS IS ENGLISH CLASS. YOU NEED TO BE ABLE TO READ AND WRITE AT ALL TIMES. *\*If you have a question about what is permitted, clear it with me first.*

#### TARDY POLICY

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I hope we don't need a tardy policy in Honors class. You must be in class when the bell rings or you will be considered **tardy**. You may **come to class prepared with materials including: paper and writing utensils, homework assignments, books, etc.**

#### ELECTRONIC DEVICES

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Cell phones and personal computers may be used only with teacher permission. Cell phones should not even be on your desk (because they are so tempting) without teacher permission. If you need to call a parent, or if you have a personal situation going on that requires immediate communication just let me know and I will allow you to use my phone. You may not wear headphones in my classroom unless you specifically ask and are granted permission from me. If a phone or other electronic device is being used outside the scope and purpose of the class without the teacher's permission, the device will be confiscated and very well might end up with a selfie of Mr. Johnson, which no one wants.

#### PARENTAL PERMISSION

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Due to the media literacy requirements of Common Core Standards, and also popular demand, we will view different movies, documentaries and media snippets in this class. Please initial below whether or not your student has permission to watch PG (or TV-PG) rated fiction and documentaries throughout the year. If high rating movies are necessary, a separate slip will be sent home.

**Initial one:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I give my student permission to watch PG viewings in English class.

\_\_\_\_\_ I do not give my student permission to watch PG viewings in English class.

**CONTRACT**

The honors program is about challenging oneself to go above and beyond the state mandated curriculum. In an honors program the student is held to a higher standard in both the work he/she completes, and the way that student presents himself or herself. With that in mind, an honors student exhibits traits that all students should aspire to: drive, timeliness, ability to multi-task, and a healthy sense of competition and inspiration to be the best in class. The student should be reading at a high level, be able to comprehend and think critically about texts, understand the verbiage associated with reading and writing, and be willing and eager to participate in a high-level Socratic discussion about a myriad of themes and ideas. An honors student is above all mature, respectful and able to appropriately handle difficult themes and differing opinions.

**RULES FOR REMAINING IN HONORS:**

- Students in Honors must maintain a “B” or better for each grading period in English class. If the final grade is below a “B” the student will face a review by the teacher and the building principal that may result in removal from the class.
- Students in Honors have good standing, “C” or better for each grading period, in all classes.
- Cheating on tests, assignments or PLAGIARISM will be cause for immediate removal from the class, and an “F” will be placed in for the final grade on that assignment
- Have zero (0) unexcused absences
- Receive an A, B, or C on all reading tests and quizzes (without retakes)
- Any discipline referrals will result in a review from the building principal.
- Have 2-3 hours of verifiable community service per trimester
- Meet proficiency on all English standards
- Have no more than one zero or late assignment per trimester

If you fail to meet the eligibility requirements, you will not earn an honors designation on your transcript and you *may* be removed from the class at any time. I have read this contract and agree to the terms listed above.

I have read the above and understand the expectations reviewed. **Please sign and return the Parental Permission and Contract to Mr. Johnson by Monday, September 9th, 2019.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian Name

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian Signature

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
**PARENT OR GUARDIAN EMAIL**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(\*Please provide your most used email address. Thanks!)

