**Greenbrier Christian Academy**

**Literary Genres**

**8th Grade English**

**Miss Crowder**

Welcome to 8th Grade English class! During this year, we will approach our study of literature by focusing on different literary genres and the tools necessary to understand and analyze literature. We will be studying the following pieces of literature over the course of the year besides the short stories and poems found in your literature book.

* *The Odyssey*
* *Romeo and Juliet*

Each quarter you will also be reading books for independent reading and will be tested over the information in a variety of ways. At Greenbrier Christian Academy, students are exposed to a variety of literature selections in their English courses.  All selections have been chosen for their literary merit. While these selections may or may not be secular in nature, the teachers strive to present and discuss the literature from a biblical worldview. Additionally, you are trained to discern what the world throws at you through television, movies, and other secular mediums. Please feel free to discuss any reservations you may have or your parents may have about a particular literature selection with me. Vocabulary drills and tests will draw from the word lists and exercises in the vocabulary workbook. The grammar component of the course will come through targeting issues that appear during the writing process and in concentrated units of grammar study during the year. The writing aspect of the course will include paragraphs, essays, and a research paper which will correspond with your geography class.

**Required Materials:**

* *Prentice Hall Literature*
* BJU’s *Writing and Grammar 8*
* Sadlier-Oxford Vocabulary Workshop Book
* Your journal (a separate marbled composition book)
* Your notebook, complete with paper and assignment pad
* Blue or black pens
* Red pens
* lined 3x5 cards
* lined 4x6 cards (can be colored)
* Flash drive to save papers (may be used for other classes as well)

The first six materials listed above are required to be in class daily (unless I have given instructions otherwise), and failure to bring them to class will result in points deducted.

**Grading Policies:**

Quizzes: Quizzes will comprise 40% of your final grade. Quizzes will cover current material from lecture, assigned reading, vocabulary, and grammar. A quiz may or may not be announced. Quizzes, including pop quizzes, **must be made up** in accordance with the student handbook.

Tests: Tests will comprise 60% of your final grade. Tests measure the student’s comprehension of units of study as well as application of the concepts discussed in class. Major essays and projects will count as test grades. Tests must be made up in accordance with the student handbook.

Homework: Homework is given for practice and reinforcement and will be graded for completion, neatness, and effort. It can be assigned daily with the exception of Wednesdays; however, reading or studying may be expected on Wednesday evenings. Points will be deducted from the next test grade for incomplete homework, incomplete class work, and not being prepared for class. Two points will be taken off of the next test for not doing written homework, one point will be taken off of the next test for not doing reading homework, and a half a point will be taken off of the next test for not being prepared for class or not participating in class.

\*\*\*Homework, quizzes, tests, and projects will be posted on Renweb. Power point notes and handouts will be posted on my teacher webpage.

**Expectations:**

\*Regular attendance and promptness to class is expected. Students must be in their desks with their notebooks out to begin class when the bell rings. Students with four tardies within a nine-week period will receive a detention.

\*Be prepared with all books, supplies, and assignments to be turned in for class. Students will not be allowed to go back to their locker to get anything that they forgot.

\*Students will not be allowed to leave the classroom to go to the bathroom. Make sure any issues are taken care of before entering the classroom.

\*Make a good presentation of yourself and your work. All assignments are to be completed in **cursive** with blue or black ink. Papers with ragged edges, tears, multiple folds, or sloppy corrections cannot be accepted.

\*The policies for make-up work, tardies, and absences will be followed in accordance with the Academy’s student handbook.

\*Be a Christian scholar. Respect for the teacher and fellow learners is expected at all times. Any statements, actions, or attitudes that do not line up with the standards of Christian fellowship will result in a prompt removal from the classroom for the remainder of the bell.

\*Anticipate that class time is devoted to work. This may be in the form of reading, writing, discussing, creating, thinking, or anything that brings about learning and teaching one another in our class.

\*Extra credit assignments will not be assigned for any student. Opportunities will be given to gain bonus points on quizzes and tests. Also, **the lowest quiz grade will be dropped**.

\*Help class will be every Wednesday afternoon from 3:30 – 4

P.M. for students who need extra help. A help class will

also be given from 3:30 – 4 P.M. the day before a test to

review for the test.

**Contact Information:**

Miss Crowder

[cjcrowder@gcagators.org](mailto:cjcrowder@gcagators.org)

Dear Eighth-Grade Parent,

I am excited to be teaching eighth grade English this year, and I look forward to getting to know your teenager better. Please read the attached class policies and expectations so that you will know how to best encourage and assist your child and know what your student will be held accountable for in my class.

If you need to get in touch with me, you should e-mail me at [cjcrowder@gcagators.org](mailto:cjcrowder@gcagators.org). Contacting me via e-mail is the best way to reach me, and I will respond as soon as possible. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns or questions. I am excited at the prospect of a new school year and hope you are too as we partner on behalf of your student this year.

Sincerely,

Miss Crowder

Please sign the bottom portion of this form. This form should be returned to Miss Crowder no later than Wednesday, September 3rd.

We have read the English 8 syllabus and understand the expectations of the class.

Print Student’s Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_