

Mission Statement: The Morgan School cultivates intellect and character in partnership with families and the community. Students learn in a rigorous academic and student-centered environment that prepares them to become resourceful, productive, healthy citizens in a global society.

Teacher: Heather O'Brien

Email: hobrien@clintonpublic.net

Availability: A & F Periods / before and after school (please see me to set up a time to meet)

Class Wiki: <http://obriensophomorehonors.wikispaces.com/>



Credits: Full year / 1 credit

Required Texts: (class texts to be distributed as required)

- Foster's *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* (it is highly recommended you have your own copy of this text)
- Power Plus Vocabulary: Book 2 (it is highly recommended that you purchase your vocab book)

Required Materials:

- Notebook or 3-ring binder with loose-leaf paper
- Folder for all handouts and assignments
- Required text(s)
- Pen / Pencil
- Google Account (this should be the clintonpublic.net account provided by the school)
- Good attitude, focused work ethic, persistence, curiosity

Course Overview:

Welcome to World Literature! We will focus on the themes and ideas presented in several well-known literary texts including: *Antigone*, *Macbeth*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Animal Farm*, *Lord of the Flies*, and *The House on Mango Street*. The units of study in Sophomore English are centered around the theme of **culture**, with a focus on world literature in order to broaden your literary landscape. Each unit will begin with an investigation of that text's cultural background, and work towards a definition and an understanding of the commonalities and differences among human cultures as represented in literature, media, and non-fiction texts from around the world. Studying these texts will help you contextualize how the events in a particular society influence and inspire an author. In addition to the above-mentioned readings, we will also focus on further developing the strategies required to be successful readers, writers, and thinkers as we work towards preparing for Junior Portfolio and your years beyond Morgan.

In signing up to take this class, you have expressed your willingness to do challenging work. It is my goal to challenge you to do your utmost best and maximize your full potential. We will work towards making you stronger readers, writers, and critical thinkers, and it is my hope that

each of you will make your best effort to make a meaningful contribution to the work of your education.

Class Expectations:

- You must come to class prepared each day. This means having the required text(s), your notebook, a class folder, a pen/pencil, and any homework that is due.
- Actively participate by listening to your classmates and teacher.
- Stay focused and involved by asking questions and expressing your opinions and insights on the materials being studied.
- ALWAYS treat your classmates with respect. Disrespect will not be tolerated under any circumstances.
- Respect for substitutes. Subbing can be an unpleasant experience; it should not be for people who sub in my classes.

Attendance/Missed Assignments:

Surprisingly, class attendance will improve your performance! Please be on time and prepared. See the bulleted points below for more information:

- You are expected to be in class on time, every day. If you are more than 10 minutes late to class without a pass, you will receive a cut. Three cuts will result in a loss of credit for the course.
- You are allowed **10 absences per semester**. After 10 absences, you will lose credit for the course unless you can provide the office with valid documentation of extenuating circumstances.
- If you are absent from class, you have 1 week from the day you return to make up any missed work, including tests and quizzes. It is **YOUR** responsibility to obtain the work missed (notes, handouts, etc). There is a labeled folder for your class period where you will find any handouts that were distributed in class during your absence. Please be timely about retrieving these handouts.

Homework Policy:

Homework comes in all shapes and sizes. While you may not be assigned to complete written work on a nightly basis, you should regularly review the material covered in class. Additionally, when assigned reading, that reading should be done *actively and carefully* . . . take notes! Regardless what type of assignment you're given, homework is critical to your success in class. Please come to class prepared.

- Homework will be posted next to your class's name on the left-hand side of the board.
- **LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Assignments are due at the start of class on the posted due date, NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Carefully and actively read all assignments by the assigned due date(s). Always expect a reading quiz. The quizzes will be rather specific, designed to encourage close, active reading of the work. Scoring a 100 on a reading quiz will almost always require you to take notes on the assigned reading.
- All final drafts of essays/writing assignments **MUST** be typed and submitted to TurnItIn.com Computers are available in the library, both computer labs, and across the street at the Henry Carter Hull Library. If you still have difficulty accessing a computer, please see me a.s.a.p.

- If you are absent on the day an essay or long-term assignment is due, you must find a way to get me that assignment by the close of the school day (2:10). Essays can be emailed to me as an attachment at: hiverson@clintonpublic.net. Any other type of long-term assignment that cannot be emailed as an attachment (i.e. projects, posters, displays, etc.) must be brought to me by a parent, sibling, or friend by 2:10. **LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**
- If you have a printing issue, you may email your paper to me BEFORE school. I will print out any papers I receive in the morning. If you save an essay to your flash drive, you must print it out BEFORE class starts. Any work not printed out by the start of class is LATE, and LATE WORK will not be accepted.

Grading Policy:

- In-Class Work & Participation – 10%
- Homework – 15%
- Quizzes – 25%
- Tests / Projects / Essays – 50%

** Students are highly encouraged to check their progress on **PowerSchool**.

Honesty and Academic Integrity:

Cheating, plagiarism, or falsification (lying) of any kind will not be tolerated. Students are cheating if they:

- Copy or allow to be copied any assignment by any method
- Use any unauthorized aid on quizzes, tests, or exams
- Steal, possess, or view a copy of a test beforehand
- Give or receive help on a test
- Take someone else’s work and submit it as their own
- Scan, alter, or forge any school document
- Plagiarize, i.e. submit material written or designed by another without giving the author/creator credit or identifying the source; or submit work created by family, friends or tutors

<p>Syllabus Acknowledgement: By signing, the student acknowledges and agrees to the procedures and expectations outlined within the syllabus. Further, the student agrees to come to class prepared with the supplies listed as well as a willingness to participate in the learning process.</p>	
<p>_____</p>	
<p>Student Name (print AND sign)</p>	
<p>_____</p>	
<p>Parent/Guardian (print AND sign)</p>	
<p>Parent Contact Information:</p>	
<p>Email: _____</p>	<p>Phone: _____</p>

