

BEAVER LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE EXPECTATIONS
MRS. FLOWERS
ENGLISH – GRADE 9

I. COURSE SCOPE

This course emphasizes the application of the reading and writing process to induce student involvement in a variety of situations. This course provides challenging instruction in strategic reading and writing to enable students to achieve a higher level of critical thinking and accomplishment. A positive attitude towards reading and writing and a successful completion of tasks will be targeted.

- A. All students receive 5 bonus points for a valid library card with their name on it.
- B. Textbooks: The literature book is titled **ELEMENTS OF LITERATURE**. The curriculum set is titled **Possibilities-Career Choices**. Language textbooks will be used as well as novels, biographies, and supplementary materials. Tentatively, the students may read: *The Odyssey, Romeo and Juliet, A Man Called Horse, The Birds, Night, Animal Farm, Big Fish, Divergent, Princess Bride, Trash, Rag and Bone Shop* plus many short stories and poems. Writing activity and packets will be used with literature and films to motivate student understanding and increase writing skills. Films may consist of any of the titles above or include *Swing Kids, The Devil's Arithmetic, West Side Story*, and nonfiction biographies or documentaries concerning the Holocaust. Students are encouraged to purchase books or to borrow them from local libraries. Please email me if you object to any of the above literature selections.
- C. Required Supplies: Three ring binder with dividers, notebook paper, 2 pens (blue or black), 2 pencils, set of highlighters, and school assigned iPad.

II. COURSE GOALS

- A. To utilize the reading and writing process as a foundation for learning
- B. To practice strategic-close-reading, writing, listening and speaking skills
- C. To develop confidence in his/her ability to successfully utilize critical thinking skills to communicate
- D. To build respect and tolerance for diversity by reading a wide variety of multicultural literature
- E. To develop independent learners who read and write for information as well as for enjoyment
- F. To increase student success in 21st Century environment

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION AND AVAILABILITY

The school website is <http://www.beaver.k12.oh.us.schools.bz/>. If a parent/guardian desires a conference, it would be advisable to schedule a time. Scheduling will insure that there is no conflict with other parent conferences, meetings or other activities. Please visit the school web page and click / High School / Teacher Websites / Mrs. Flowers and visit my classroom webpage at mrsericaflores.weebly.com. If you have questions or concerns: my school email is erica.flowers@beaverlocal.org

Most importantly – you can monitor your child's progress daily with *Access - Progress Book*

III. GRADING POLICY

Each student's grade will be computed using a point system, following the district's grading policy. The total number of points possible each grading period will depend upon the number of assignments given during the grading period. In-class assignments and homework assignments that are incomplete and/or unavailable to turn in on the due-date (for example, due at the end of the period or due tomorrow) - a student will earn a before/after school detention for an incomplete assignment. If the assignment is turned in the day-after the due date, a student will earn ½ credit. If the assignment is turned in two or more days-after the due date, a student will earn 0%. Please refer to the student handbook, which is online

<http://www.beaver.k12.oh.us/docs/BLHS%202015%202016%20Handbook.pdf>

IV. CELL PHONE AND CLASSROOM RULES

A cell phone may not be visible in this classroom, unless I give a directive to allow course related access. If the phone is out for any reason, it will be confiscated and returned at the end of the class. In addition, the student will receive an **after-school detention**. If there is a second offense, the student will receive a **Friday night school**, and the phone will be given to an administrator. For the third offense, I will set up another **Friday night school**, and the phone will be confiscated and given to an administrator for office referral, where appropriate discipline for persistent misuse of a student phone will be addressed and carried out by administration.

Behavior Expectations:

- A. Respect teacher and other students – say please and thank you
- B. Raise hand to speak or get out of assigned seat – take turns
- C. Keep hands, feet, and objects to oneself – be kind
- D. No profanity, fighting, or put-downs – be a friend – be a good listener
- E. Keep classroom neat and clean – help others
- F. Be on time and prepared for class - be responsible

Consequences for misbehavior include: warning, detention, phone call home, Friday night school, expulsions, etc. according to Beaver Local Code of Conduct.

Tear here and then return the signature portion to acknowledge my understanding of the course and rules. This is a homework assignment grade = 10 points (due Monday - 9/7). ***Not signing the course expectation handout - no way absolves responsibility to coursework and rules. All students are made aware of procedures for this course.***

STUDENT NAME

PERIOD

DATE

I have reviewed the course expectations as stated with my child. We understand the responsibilities in English 9 class.

Student Signature

Parent Signature