

7th Grade – Euphrosyne : The Year of Mirth (Hope)
Syllabus for September 18, 2017

*A brand from a brand | is kindled and burned,
And fire from fire begotten;
And man by his speech | is known to men,
And the stupid by their stillness.*

- The Poetic Edda #57

For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease. Though the root thereof wax old in the earth, and the stock thereof die in the ground; Yet through the scent of water it will bud, and bring forth boughs like a plant.

- Job 14:7-9

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Course Overview:

The purpose of the 7th grade Literature/Composition class is to learn to read some of the greater works of Western literature, discuss ideas, themes and imagery, and learn how to respond to these works. Students will be asked to read assigned works both in printed form and on the internet. Some of the texts will be in class copies, some, however will become the property of the student. Students will be asked to discuss these works both in class and in written form beginning with paragraphs and working toward writing analytical essays.

Course Expectations:

1. Students are expected to do nightly homework consisting either of reading assignments, compositions, or review.
2. They are also asked to learn the skill of discussion and contribute readily in the classroom, expressing their judgements, asking questions and debating ideas both of the professor and of each other. This is a skill that will be taught in class.
3. Students are expected to memorize certain key terms and concepts presented in class.
4. Students are expected to take any scheduled quizzes or tests.
5. They are expected to learn how to write a five sentence paragraph with a topic sentence and supporting evidence and they will be asked to write summary, persuasive, and analytical paragraphs by the end of the year.
6. Students will be asked to compose three papers during the course of the year; one summary paper, one compare/contrast essay, and one analytical essay. Essays will be submitted in electronic format as an attachment to an email (see my address above) AND in printed format following the parameters given in class.
7. Students are expected to be obedient to the school and class rules, courteous to one another and the teacher, and always to comport themselves in a manner worthy of their inalienable dignity as young men and young women.

Trimester Grading

1. Homework	10%
2. Literature discussion	10%
3. Literature quizzes	15%
4. Literature tests	20%
5. Paragraphs	20%
6. Compositions (3)	20%
7. General composure & obedience	5%

Nota bene: for every graded assignment the student will receive a Pass/Fail (0/1) grade in the gradebook (visible to parents) the day the work is due - followed by a separate percentage grade in the gradebook that reflects the quality of the work. So if the report is due on Tuesday the student receives either a 0/1 or a 1/1 depending on if the work is turned in. The 0 turns into a 1 when the work is received (regardless of the lateness). So there is no penalty for the lateness in the grade – however, the grade remains a zero until the work is turned in. Work turned in receives full credit in the percentile grade regardless of its lateness (though the later the work the less likely I am to give it my full concern). Grades do solidify at the end of Trimester, though; so a 0/1 and a 0/100 become permanent at some point. Work turned in at the last minute (within two days of the end of the Trimester) receives a 50% unless otherwise negotiated with the teacher. Work not turned in by the cutoff date receives a 0% unless otherwise negotiated with the teacher.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Plagiarism is a serious academic crime! Charles Colton may have been correct in saying,

Nachahmung ist die aufrichtigste Form der Schmeichelei
Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery

but Oscar Wilde was more correct when he quipped,

Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery that mediocrity can pay to greatness.

In order to become great themselves, students must learn to distinguish between imitation and plagiarism. When imitating we model our work after the masters for a time until we learn to master the thing ourselves. Doing the work is like lifting weights; if the student does it himself he becomes strong; if he lets someone else do it that other person becomes strong leaving the student weak. Each student, therefore, is expected to do his or her own work, resisting the urge to plagiarize and imitating the masters until they become masters themselves. Anyone found breaking this expectation will lose all credit for the test/quiz/assignment in question and receive a disciplinary mark.

TEXTS USED DURING THE YEAR

	Title	Author	ISBN	#of pages
Student Owned	1. Lyric poems	John Keats	0486268713	80
Student Owned	2. The Greek Myths	Olivia Coolidge	0618154264	256
Class Set	3. The Trojan War	Olivia Coolidge	0618154280	250
Student Owned	4. Beowulf	Anonymous (Raffel)	0451530969	176
Class Set	5. The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood	Howard Pyle	1591940435	327
Class Set	6. King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table	Roger Lancelyn Green	0141321016	416
Class Set	7. As You Like It	Shakespeare	048640658X	80
Student Owned	8. Songs for the Open Road	various	0486406466	80
				1665

Students are expected to conduct themselves always in an attitude of respect towards their instructor, each other, and their materials and work. Disrespect toward instructor or fellow students will result in disciplinary action. Disrespect toward materials and work will result in refusal of work, loss of credit, or repurchasing of text.

No food or drink is allowed in class except by special permission from the instructor.

This syllabus may be subject to revision as the course progresses.