# From the desk of Mrs. Dagata…

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**9th Grade Honors English ~ Room C-8**

**2016-2017**

Welcome everyone! This is an overview of the class rules, policies, grading information, and procedures. Please keep this with you the entire semester, inside of your interactive notebook.

**COURSE OF STUDY**

Students will be reading a high volume of various short stories, poems, plays, speeches, and novels that will be assigned throughout the year. The course will also include an intense focus on writing. Most of the literature (except the novels and play) will be located inside their purple literature book. The following literary texts will need to be purchased or borrowed for a significant amount of time from the library (at least 6 weeks):

* ***Lord of the Flies* by William Golding (can purchase now – please have by Friday, September 2nd)**

The following texts will also be taught. Specific versions will be shared with students with plenty of time to purchase/order/reserve prior to needing in class:

* ***Life of Pi* by Yann Martel**
* ***The Alchemist* by Paolo Coelho**
* ***Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare**

**REQUIRED MATERIALS Students must bring ALL materials to class every day!**

* Pens, pencils, 1 single-subject spiral notebook, notebook paper
* 2 highlighters (any colors)
* 1 subject spiral notebook reserved for English ONLY – this will be where a lot of your notes and work will be
* Current reading material (students will also be expected to complete individual reading assignments)
* Sign-up for [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) – I will give instructions for this in class. It is free and how you will upload and submit most of your writing assignments.
* A Gmail email account – FREE. Must be Gmail so we can use Google Docs for class. Go to [www.gmail.com](http://www.gmail.com) to sign-up. If you already have a Gmail account, you are fine and can use that one for class.

**EXPECTATIONS**

* BEHAVIOR
  + - 1. **Students will RESPECT all others at all times.**
      2. **All rules in Student Handbook will be enforced.**
      3. **Students will bring all current materials to class every day.**
      4. **When the tardy bell rings, students will be seated and prepared to work.**
      5. **No food or drinks during class, only bottled water.**
      6. **Students will remain in their seats unless otherwise instructed.**
      7. **Reminder: no cell phones or headphones permitted during class –THEY MUST BE OFF YOUR DESK, LAP, AND OUT OF SIGHT!!!!!**
* CONSEQUENCES 1st offense: verbal warning / possible phone call home

2nd offense: referral to Dean / phone call home

3rd offense: referral to Dean / possible parent meeting

* ATTENDANCE

Attendance is crucial to your survival in C-8! Being present is essential to your success in this course. First, your accumulation of class points will help you maintain or bring up your grade. Secondly, EVERYTHING we cover will resurface on a quiz, test, or writing assignment. It is **your responsibility** to pick up all missed work/handouts. Check the ABSENT BINS in the front of the class to gather these necessary items or check with me. You can also check the class webpage at: [www.dagatacohs.weebly.com](http://www.dagatacohs.weebly.com)

Trips to the restroom are to be done on your own time. However, it is understandable that sometimes students will need to use the restroom during class time. Students should not make a habit of it or they will lose out on valuable classroom learning and experiences.

* HOMEWORK & OTHER ASSIGNMENTS

All homework is due at the beginning of the period on the date it is due. All assignments are posted on the assignment board in class and on the teacher webpage. **Late work will not be accepted!** **If a student misses class for a school activity (i.e. sports, clubs), assignments are still due!** Students can either drop the work by my classroom or in my box in the main office. Absent work follows the protocol explained in the Student Handbook.

Homework and long-term assignments can also be accessed on my teacher website. We will review how to check assignments on my webpage together in class.

All long-term assignments (such as essays & projects) **must** be turned in on the assigned due date. Any long-term assignments that are not turned in on the assigned due date will not be able to receive higher than one dropped grade per day thereafter. **EVEN IF A STUDENT IS ABSENT, THEY MUST MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO GET THE ASSIGNMENT TO ME (email, with a friend, etc.).** This means that if an essay was due on Monday but not turned in until Tuesday, the highest grade it could receive would be a B. If not turned in until Wednesday, the highest grade it could receive would be a C. This would continue until the 50% mark**. Students have one week from the due date to turn in late long-term assignments. After that, they will receive NO credit!**

**Notebooks must be turned in the day they are due, no exceptions! You will have at least 3 days before knowing when I will collect and grade notebooks. If you do not turn your notebooks in the day they are due to be graded, I will not accept them!**

Make-up tests must be completed in a timely fashion (within 2 weeks) and may be done during lunch, break, or possibly before/after school per arrangement with Mrs. Dagata.

**GRADING**

Standard Scale: 100-93% A 79-77% C+ 62-60% D-

92-90% A- 76-73% C 59% or below F

89-87% B+ 72-70% C-

86-83% B 69-67% D+

82-80% B- 66-63% D

Grading: Your grade will be determined by an accumulation of straight points. Below is an **example** of typical point distribution; however, each assignment will be scored on an individual basis.

Homework = 15-20 pts. Quizzes = 30-40 pts.

Tests = 75-100 pts. Projects = 50 pts . Essays = 75-100 pts. Notebook Checks = 130 pts.

**CONTACT INFO**

I am available most days before school, at break, sometimes lunch, and sometimes after school. Please let me know if you have questions or need extra help and I would be happy to work with you.