

Christian Literature
Mrs. Reynolds
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Course Description

Christian Literature is a one-semester Bible course for seniors. This course looks at the Bible as a work of literature in addition to being the words of God. This course also looks at literature written by Christian authors.

Class Rules

- 1.) Come to class on time, with all materials, and prepared to learn.
- 2.) Be considerate and respectful of everyone in the classroom.
- 3.) Think about the outcome of your action then act accordingly.

Remember...

to the degree you are self-disciplined, I will not have to discipline.

Conduct

- If I am lecturing you should be listening attentively while taking notes. If you have a question please raise your hand and wait to be called on. *Always assume that what I am telling you will be on a test, and always assume you need to take notes.*
- During group work talking is obviously permitted, however, groups discussion needs to stay on topic.
- Talking is not allowed during independent reading or writing times.

Attendance

- You should be in your seat ready to work when the tardy bell rings. Being in the classroom is not enough! If you are not at your desk you will lose citizenship points.
- You must present absence or tardy slips to me. If I do not see a slip it will be considered an unexcused absence. Please bring me absence slips by the end of the week.

Miscellaneous Procedures and Information

- On-time work should be placed in the yellow bin by my desk. Unless otherwise specified, **all work** needs to be typed or in black or blue pen with the MLA heading in the upper left hand corner of the paper:

Your Name
Teacher Name
Class Name
Date due

- As soon as I finish grading any work I will put it in the 3rd period Bible 4 bin on the table in front of my desk. Please check this bin regularly to pick up your work. Please do not ask me if I have graded your paper – if it's not in the bin, I have not graded it yet.
- If you need to use the restroom or go to your locker after the bell has rung please do not interrupt class to ask permission. Take the pass and quietly leave the classroom. You will lose citizenship points if this becomes a regular occurrence. Please try to avoid leaving the in middle of a lecture.
- If I see or hear a cell phone I will take it. If it is a first offense, you will have to pick it up from the office at the end of the day. You will also receive a demerit. If it is a second offense, a parent will have to pick up the cell phone. After that, a parent will have to pick up the phone and you will receive a referral. If cell phones become an issue, every student will have to turn them in when they come into the classroom.
- Everything on the table in front of my desk is available for students use. Please put all items back once you are done/ before you leave my classroom. The large top drawer in the cabinet behind my desk also has supplies like paper, markers, rulers, etc... that you may use. All other drawers, cupboards, and my desk are off-limits to students.

Missed Work Policy

If you miss a class period because of an excused absence, YOU are required to get the missing assignments and handouts. I will not track you down to make sure you receive the handouts. Even if you are excused from class, you are still required to keep up with assigned reading, since it will be posted online. The reason for this is so that you will be able to participate in class discussions when you return to class without having to make up reading. Each day I will put any handouts, with the names of anyone who missed class, in the green folder in the front of the classroom. I will also write the due date on the handouts for you. It is your responsibility to check that folder when you return to school after an excused absence. (If you return to school and there is nothing in the bin for you, it would still be wise to ask me if you missed work, as I too am human and may occasionally forget to put work back there for you).

Late Work Policy

- Most homework will be accepted late, but with penalty. Certain assignments will not be accepted late, such as assignments due the last week of a quarter or major assignments. If an assignment will not be accepted late I will let you know in advance.
- For each school day an assignment is turned in late you will lose one full letter grade (10 %). For example, let's say that you would have received an 87% on an assignment if it had been turned in on time, but you turn it in late. Your grade will drop to a 77% if it is one day late, a 67% if it is two days late, and so on. No assignment will be accepted after five days, except in severe cases.
- Parental notes will be considered, as will sporting events (for team members only), however, it is up to my discretion to choose whether to honor parental notes or not.

Generally, no excuses will be accepted for long-term assignments or basic homework assignments where more than one day is given to complete the assignment.

- For the many assignments I will stamp and collect assignments the day they are due. This is so I know the assignment was turned in on time. In class work will not always be stamped, and should be turned into the yellow bin by my desk when you are instructed to do so.
- Late work, whether due to excused absence or negligence, should not be turned in to the yellow bin. It must be handed directly to me. Late work must be handed directly to me so I can verify that the work can still be turned in, and so I can date the assignment and grade accordingly.

Plagiarism Policy

ANY form of plagiarism is considered cheating, and will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to: copying homework from a friend or allowing a friend to copy your homework, buying papers off the internet, paying a friend to write a paper or do homework for you (or getting a friend to do it for free), or copying and pasting parts of a paper from another source (without giving proper citations). If you are caught doing any of these things on any assignment you will immediately receive a zero for that assignment, you will not be able to make up the grade, and you may receive a regular discipline referral. It is true that I may not catch every incident of plagiarism, but choosing to cheat is a huge risk to your grade.

Citizenship

Each student will start off with up to 10 citizenship points each week, or two points available each school day of the week. You will lose citizenship points if you receive demerits for being disruptive, talking out of turn, coming to class late, using the restroom excessively, not following instructions, etc... If you lose more than 6 citizenship points during a single week, you may also receive a referral. There will be chances to earn back those points, however. Participating in class discussions may earn back points, and in certain cases cleaning white boards, vacuuming the classroom, etc... may be a way to counter-act demerits.

Assessment:

- I use a traditional 10 point grade scale, including plus and minus. For example:
 - 98-100 % A+
 - 94-97 % A
 - 90-93 % A -
- 25% of the final grade will be a weekly citizenship and participation grade.
- 25% of the final grade will be an accumulation of weekly homework.
- 25% of the final grade will be an average of each project or activity.
- 25% of the final grade will be an average of each quiz, test and final.

Extra Credit

Notes taken in chapel or at church will always count for extra credit, but do not expect extra credit to make up for homework and assignments you fail to turn in.

Course Outline:

Biblical Poetry

Weeks 1-2

Text: The Bible (Psalms, Isaiah, Jeremiah etc...)

Homework, Projects, Quizzes, Tests, Academic Prompts:

- Elements of Biblical Poetry
- Analysis of Psalm 19
- Psalm Writing Prompt

Biblical Narratives

Weeks: 3-9

Text: The Bible (Joseph, Esther, and Daniel narratives)

Homework, Projects, Quizzes, Tests, Academic Prompts:

- Questions over texts.
- In class, small group, or jigsaw discussion of texts.
- Objective quizzes/tests over the narratives.

Crazy Love

Weeks: 10-14

Text: *Crazy Love* by Francis Chan

Homework, Projects, Quizzes, Tests, Academic Prompts:

- In class, small group, or jigsaw discussion of text.
- *Crazy Love* Writing Prompt

The Great Divorce

Weeks: 15-18

Text: *The Great Divorce* by C.S. Lewis

Homework, Projects, Quizzes, Tests, Academic Prompts:

- Questions over text.
- In class, small group, or jigsaw discussion of text.
- Objective quizzes or tests over the text.

Materials Needed

- Binder: I do not require a specific size, nor do I require a separate binder solely for Bible. However, if you choose to use one binder for multiple subjects, please have a separate section only for English, in order to keep your work organized.
- Text: Please bring the appropriate book to class. We may not use the book every day in class, but you should always come prepared. Failure to come prepared to class will result in a demerit.
- Writing utensil and paper: Please come prepared with a pen and paper every day. Work done in pencil will not be accepted.