**Buford High School**

Course Syllabus

**Course Title**…..**9th Grade Honors Language Arts** **Term** Fall 2015

Teachers………..Mr. Jeff Gillis, Mrs. Shannon McClure & Mrs. Bethany Phillips

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| Email Address **Teacher Web Page** | [jeff.gillis@bufordcityschools.org](mailto:jeff.gillis@bufordcityschools.org)  [shannon.mcclure@bufordcityschools.org](mailto:shannon.mcclure@bufordcityschools.org)  [bethany.phillips@bufordcityschools.org](mailto:bethany.phillips@bufordcityschools.org) |
| Teacher Support (Help sessions etc.) | Help sessions are available before school on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and after school on Mondays and Wednesdays. |

### Course Description

In accordance with the Georgia Standards of Excellence, Ninth Grade Language Arts integrates writing, grammar, literature, research, listening, speaking, collaborating, and critical thinking skills. Throughout the course, students will develop writing skills that are critical for success in all academic areas. Students will practice all steps of the writing process in various settings, including informal and formal assessments. Students will participate in timed-writing activities, and be taught how to organize information and address a prompt quickly. They will master MLA Format, as well as other research-related skills. The Ninth Grade English Language Arts curriculum includes a wide array of reading texts: fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and research materials. Students will incorporate various elements of literature as they analyze texts and make connections between reading content and their everyday lives. This course culminates with the Ninth Grade Language Arts Milestone, which will be administered in May 2015.

### Course Curriculum Content

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| **Common Core** | **Units/Topics** |
| The ELA Georgia Standards of Excellence can be accessed online at https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Pages/ELA-9-12.aspx  Buford High School utilizes both sets of standards in order to prepare all students for the Milestone test. | 1. Short Stories and Writing 2. *The Odyssey* 3. *Oedipus Rex* 4. *To Kill A Mockingbird* |

### Instructional Materials and Supplies

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| **Published Materials** | **Instructional Supplies** |
| *McDougal Littell Literature Oedipus*  *To Kill A Mockingbird* | 1.) Assigned reading material  2.) Pens with blue or black ink  3.) 3-Ring Binder with dividers  4.) College-ruled notebook paper  5. ) Pink, green, and yellow highlighters\*  **\*These specific colors are used in editing activities for writing; it is important that students have these specific highlighters.** **We will store them in class for student use**. |

**Evaluation and Grading**

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| **Assignments** | **Grade Weights** | **Grading Scale** |
| Benchmark Assessments  Reading Quizzes  Vocabulary Quizzes  In-Class Essays  Performance Essay  Out-of-Class Essays  Unit Tests | Benchmarks (30%)  Writing (30%)  Tests/Major Assignments (25%)  Quizzes & Daily Grades (15%)  **NOTE: Assignments that are not completed by the announced due date are worth only 70% of the grade earned. Assignments that are more than one week late will receive a zero.** | A: 90 and above  B: 80 – 89  C: 74 – 79  D: 70 – 73 F: 69 or below |

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| **Expectations for Academic Success** |
| 1. Read daily 2. Ask questions 3. Participate constructively as a team member 4. Proofread written assignments and edit meaningfully 5. Challenge yourself to continuously improve |

***The syllabus may be updated as needed throughout the semester.***

**Honor Code Policy:**

All BHS students will strictly adhere to the BHS Honor Code which is posted on the BHS website.

For any violation of the BHS Honor Code, students will receive a 0 and be referred to the administration.

**Attendance Excused Absence Policy:**

Students who are granted **Excused Absent** status for days missed will be subject to the following:

* **All pre-assigned work will be due on the day of a student’s return from an absence.**
* For **assignments which did not have a pre-assigned due date during the time of the student’s absence**, students will be given five days to arrange for make up work or follow other arrangements granted by the teacher. All incomplete work carried over into a new marking period should be completed no later than the tenth day of the following period.

**upon returning to school, it is the student’s responsibility to make arrangements Within 5 days to make up work.**

**All policies outlined in the BCSS student CODE OF CONDUCT and the BHS student handbook will be followed in this classroom.**

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| **Teacher consequences for Minor Classroom Disruptions** | |
| 1st | Penalty assigned at teacher’s discretion – Parent Contact |
| 2nd | 30 minute faculty detention and parent contact |
| 3rd | 1 hour faculty detention and parent contact |
| 4th | Administrative Referral |

I have read and I understand the syllabus for Ninth Grade Literature.

Student’s name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s e-mail:

Parent’s name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s e-mail:

Preferred contact phone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_