Pebblebrook High School

August 4, 2014

Dear Students,

Hi! I’m Ms. Yeganegi, and I will be your World Literature teacher this semester. This is my third year at Pebblebrook. I have taught World Lit, 9th Lit, and Multicultural Lit. I love World Lit because we get to learn about the world. And guess what – it’s a big place. I think that this class will be enjoyable for those of you who do your best and come with an open mind. I guess the way I would describe it is, you’ll get out what you put in.

I remember always wanting to know things about my teachers, so I’ll try to answer some of the questions you might have about me. I’m 27 years old. I’m not married yet, and I don’t have any kids. I grew up in the Atlanta area with two parents and one younger sister. My dad is a financial analyst, my mom is a high school math teacher, and my sister just graduated from college and is starting grad school this month. I also have lots of extended family in Georgia, Tennessee, Texas, Germany, and Iran. My father is originally from Iran, in the Middle East. He came to the United States in college and never returned. I think it’s really tough to be an immigrant, and even the child of an immigrant, but I feel lucky to have grown up in a multicultural household and getting to experience different customs, cultures, and traditions. Also, Persian food is delicious.

When I’m not teaching/at school/grading your papers, I spend a lot of time playing tennis. I’m on five different teams with friends, and we are all pretty good tennis players, if I do say so myself! I’m also the varsity boys coach here at PHS, so in the spring my schedule stays extra busy with that. (I love to recruit great students to be great tennis players, so if you’re interested, let me know.) I spend a lot of time with my family and a few close friends. Most of my best friends live in different states or even countries, so I really like to travel to see them (although it’s so expensive that I don’t get to do it too much). I really enjoy cooking and trying new restaurants, reading (of course), and watching movies and TV shows (“The Walking Dead” is my favorite show right now). My favorite thing to do is spend time outside, whether it’s playing tennis, hiking at Kennesaw Mountain, or just enjoying the fresh air and sunshine. I love the beach and would be there all the time if I could. Finally, I’m a devoted Georgia sports fans. The Falcons kind of suck this season, but I’ll cheer for them anyways. I love the Braves, and last but not least – GOOOO DAWGS! (I went to UGA for my undergraduate and then Georgia State for grad school.)

Since we’re going to be together a lot, you should know a few things. I cannot stand disrespect. That is the quickest way to disappoint me, and in my classroom, I will not tolerate disrespect towards anyone. Please treat me and your peers with respect. Please clean up after yourself and respect this classroom as the space in which I spend 10 hours a day. I try really hard to be patient, but don’t forget – I am a human being, and I have my limits like anyone else. I think it’s really important to be open-minded and learn the things that you know nothing about. I will not react well to intolerance or rudeness, but I love for you to ask questions whenever you have them. I would always prefer to know about a problem or something that is bothering you than have it stay hidden. I’m here for you. Come talk to me.

With hopes for a great semester! –

Ms. Yeganegi