**Pebblebrook High School**

**2.0: Upgrade to Excellence!**

**English Department School Year 2013-2014**

**COURSE TITLE: World Literature**  **INSTRUCTOR:** Alexandra Yeganegi

**EMAIL**: alexandra.yeganegi@cobbk12.org **PHONE:** 770-819-2521 (please **email** first!)

**SCHOOL WEBSITE:** <http://www.cobbk12.org/Pebblebrook/>

**CLASS BLOG:** http://www.yeglit.weebly.com

**COURSE OVERVIEW AND CONTENT**: *Exploring the World through Words* – This is the goal we will focus on this semester. World literature will allow us to explore the many cultures and voices of the world through the written word. Through a combination of classic and modern literature, informational texts, art, and film, we will explore and analyze how culture, history, and language help to shape texts from around the world, which have the power to shape us as we read them. We will also write (a lot), learn how to synthesize and analyze information, and consider our purpose as readers, writers, and citizens.

The following are our thematic units for this course:

Unit 1: Who are we, and where are we from? Identity, Culture, Stereotypes, and Acceptance

Unit 2: Teen Angst – Everyone’s Got Problems

Unit 3: Perception is Everything – Dystopia

Unit 4: From Rags to Riches

**GRADING POLICY:**

Reading………………. 25%

Writing………………... 25%

Speaking and Listening... 15%

Language………………10%

Common Assessment…... 5%

Final Assessment………20%

**SYNERGY ACCESS TO GRADES:**  It is strongly encouraged that you keep your Synergy login information in a safe place and that you have access to the information when needed. You will not be given grade reports outside of the ones provided every six weeks. It is preferable, in order to save paper, that you and your parents regularly access your grades for all courses through the Synergy website.

**\*\*PARENTS SHOULD CONTACT THE GUIDANCE OFFICE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THEIR SYNERGY PASSWORD AND ACCESS INFORMATION.\*\****Please note that when you are viewing grades in Synergy that a blank grade column for your child has no effect on their grade. If the space is blank, your student may not have turned in that assignment due to absence or the teacher may not have entered grades for that assignment at that time. Only if you see a “0” or “Z” in the space the assignment will affect your student’s grade. An “X” means that the student is exempt from an assignment at the discretion of the teacher.*

**CLASS TECHNOLOGY:** I update my class blog on a daily and/or weekly basis and strongly recommend that both students and parents make a habit of checking the blog for announcements, information about daily lessons and assignments, and occasional “surprise” announcements. I also use Remind101, which is a free (standard text messaging rates apply) program that you can use to subscribe to text reminders from me. To start, please text @yegwl to the number 917-746-3556.

**PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES:** All conferences must be setup through the Guidance Office and will be scheduled before or after school. You can reach the guidance department at 770-819-2524.

**TEXTS/READINGS: Central Text**: Prentice Hall *World Masterpieces*

**SUPPLEMENTAL TEXTS AND PARALLEL READINGS:** In addition to what is in the textbook, we will survey texts such as *Funny in Farsi* (mandatory summer reading), *The House on Mango Street*, *The Joy Luck Club*, *Oedipus*, *American Born Chinese*, *Anthem*, and various short stories, poetry, informational texts, and other readings. Please do not purchase any books until asked to do so.

**POSSIBLE FILMS**: Films are texts, and as such, we will utilize them on a regular basis to extend our study of literature. **Possible** films to be viewed (**either in clips or in entirety**) include “God Grew Tired of Us,” “Real Women Have Curves,” “The Breakfast Club,” “The Outsiders,” “The Hunger Games,” “My Fair Lady,” and other documentaries, historical pieces, author biographies, and film clips to supplement our readings. Parents, please note that by signing the last page of this syllabus, you are agreeing that your child has permission to view films rated PG-13.

**\*NOTE\*: If a parent/guardian has a concern with any book, film, or other material for the course, please contact me so that we can discuss an alternate assignment for your student.**

**EVALUATION/ASSESSMENT:** There are many ways to evaluate (grade) your progress in class. ***Some*** of the ways in which students will be evaluated are:

**Formative Assessments:**

* Class discussions
* Teacher-student conferences
* Journals, Quick writes, and Summarizing
* Voice Lessons (writing exercises)
* Graphic Organizers
* Exit Tickets
* Daily Reflections
* Online discussions and activities

**Summative Assessments:**

* Quizzes
* Tests
* Essays
* Presentations
* Projects
* Interactive notebooks

**WRITING:** The best way to improve your writing is to practice consistently. In this course, you should expect to write a little bit every day. Not all of this writing may be graded, but all of it will be assessed as I determine how to best help you. You will have the opportunity to practice the following types of writing throughout the course:

* Narrative writing
* Argumentative writing
* Informational/expository writing
* Technical writing
* Creative writing
* Timed writing

**INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOKS:** You will be creating and keeping up with an interactive notebook this semester, which is essentially a personalized textbook and interactive journal that allows you to store and process all class information in one place (a spiral notebook). You will be required to supply your spiral notebook and some supplies, and the notebooks will be created, maintained, and stored in the classroom. Notebook checks will be frequent and may be announced or unannounced. They will account for a major portion of your grade in the writing and language categories.

**ATTENDANCE AND ABSENCE POLICY:** A student who is present and actively participates is most likely to be successful; however, if a student is absent, he/she has the number of days absent plus one day to make up assigned work. If the student does not make up the work, azero will be given for the missed work. All a student has to do is ASK, and I will be happy to designate a time for make-up work when my assistance is needed.

If a student has an unexcused absence, all work will be assigned a zero in Synergy unless the absence becomes excused.

Remember that IT IS THE STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITY TO PICK UP AND TO MAKE UP ANY MISSED WORK! There will be a designated spot and system to pick up make-up work, which students will be aware of. Please check the blog to view more details about the day’s work.

Any student who misses class for OSS or ISS must turn in his/her work the day he/she returns to class. Students in OSS must have their work picked up in the main office.

This year Pebblebrook is offering attendance incentives, including the ability to opt out of one final exam. Please keep this in mind, as well as the fact that students who attend class do better overall!

**LATE WORK POLICY:** **Late work may not be eligible to earn full credit.** **All major assignments/projects will be penalized 10% each day late**.  ALWAYS turn it in. A grade is better than a zero.

**TARDY POLICY**: Students will now be required to use the Late Arrival System to obtain tardy slips for admittance to class. The LAS requires students to enter their lunch identification number and prints a slip to submit to their teacher to gain admittance to class. Students are allowed a total of three tardies before administrative action will be taken. Please note that this new system does not allow for three tardies to one class before administrative action is taken; rather, the LAS accumulates all tardies to school, to classes, to homeroom, and from lunch. Therefore, it is possible for a student to earn five tardies in one day. Consequences for tardies after the third tardy are Saturday school and in-school suspension.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**: Cheating is considered a serious matter. The parents of a student who has been involved in cheating will be notified and the student will receive a grade of zero for the test or evaluation period, and a grade of U in conduct.

For this course, cheating is defined as, but not limited to, the following acts:

* Copying anyone’s answers to questions, exercises, study guides, class work, test revisions, or homework assignments.
* Taking any information verbatim from any source, including the Internet, without giving proper credit to the author, rearranging the order of words and/or changing some words as written by the author and claiming the work as his or her own, i.e., plagiarism.
* Looking on another student’s paper during a test or a quiz.
* Having available any study notes or other test aides during a test or quiz without the teacher’s permission.
* Writing test and unit information on desks or any other item viewable to the student during a test (ex. Shoes, hand, clothing, book bag, the back of the chair in front of the student, and small pieces of paper).
* Collaborating on assignments when independent work is expected.
* Using cell phones, iPods, or any other electronic device to send test answers or information to other students (ex: calculators or paging devices).
* Having a parent, guardian, family member, or friend complete research or assignments for you.
* Sharing test information with the teacher’s other students

**Note: Consequence of cheating will result in exclusion from extra credit opportunities.**

**CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS: My expectations for all students are as follows:**

* **Be respectful of everyone and everything in the classroom.**
* **Be present, be prepared, and be positive.**

**It is my expectation that this class is a place of business and learning. You are required to treat your teacher(s), peers, and materials with respect at all times. You are required to comply with school rules at all times. You are required to follow directions at all times and correct your behavior immediately if there is an issue. Consequences for failure to comply with these expectations may include a warning, student/teacher conference, detention, parent contact, and referral to administration.**

**EXTRA HELP**: I am available for tutoring most mornings from 7:50-8:10 am and after school on Monday from 3:30-4:15. From April to May, I will also be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays as needed.

**MATERIALS NEEDED**:

1. 1-inch 3-ring binder with 5 tabs (General Info, Unit 1, Unit 2, Unit 3, Unit 4)
2. Pens (blue or black), a pencil, and a highlighter
3. Notebook paper
4. Recommended: Colored Pencils/Markers, Glue Stick

**BOOKS NEEDED:**

* + - 1. *Enrique’s Journey* by Sonia Nazario – need by Friday, January 31
      2. *American Born Chinese* by Gene Yang – need by Monday, March 3

These books may be purchased from any bookseller for less than $5 used or around $10 new. You may also obtain a copy free from the media center or the public library.

All other books/reading materials will be provided for you (class sets).

**Classroom Donation List:** If you would like to donate supplies to the room, these items are needed throughout the year:

Kleenex

Hand sanitizer

Band-Aids

Printer Paper

Markers

Colored Pencils

Construction Paper

Notebook Paper

Pens

**SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

***TEACHER: Alexandra Yeganegi***

***COURSE: World Literature***

**PARENTAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

* I understand the academic integrity policy as stated in this syllabus.
* I have reviewed the class syllabus and understand the grading policy.
* I give my child permission to view the listed movies, and any other movies chosen by the teacher at or below a PG13 rating that are related to the curriculum of the class.
* I give permission for my child to read the class readings noted in the syllabus, and on additional readings provided by the instructor at a future date.
* I give my child permission to participate in the online blog.
* I am willing to be contacted by e-mail, phone, and regular mail regarding my student’s progress.
* I will contact my student’s teacher at any time regarding any concerns with the class curriculum or my student’s progress.
* I have viewed the required materials for this class.

**STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**:

* I understand the academic integrity police as stated in this syllabus.
* I have reviewed the class syllabus and understand the grading policy.
* I will participate in the online activities associated with the blog.
* I will model mature behavior.
* I will positively and actively participate in my education and take all make-up work responsibility upon myself to ensure my success in class.
* I will bring all of the required materials to class (notebook, writing utensils, and other supplies needed).
* I will contact my teacher at any time regarding any concerns or questions concerning the class curriculum or my personal progress in her class.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***PLEASE PRINT***

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Student Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Parent Signature)

Parent Email Address and Preferred Phone Number:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Please place a check in the box if a translator will be necessary for phone contact and list what language will be spoken: □* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (language)**