Ms. Simmons 9th Grade Literature Syllabus

2023-2024 Cross Creek 9th Grade English Language Arts (ELA)

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| **Teacher** | **Email** | **Office Location & Hours** |
| **Ms. Shinika E. Simmons, MAT** | [simmosh@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us](mailto:simmosh@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us)  Remind: text 81010  @simmo2324 | Cross Creek High School  My office hours: 2:30-3:15 unless otherwise needed for conferences  Tutoring- upon requests |

[**Parent contact sheet click here to complete**](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ShareFormPage.aspx?id=QC2yMGJzF0-DqSUwkntvZSatwO44g0ZCstGrPBAHuEpUQUxBTVRWRUVHNFdOVTZKV1FEUzU5V1ZIQy4u&sharetoken=Fi4YWnZBMGdy2WOJyjyY)

**Course Materials**

**Required Materials**

* Notebook, 5 subject spiral
* Pen, pencil, Blue or Black Ink pen ONLY
* 9th Grade Literature Book 9 (consumable)

**Grading Scheme**

Release & Assesses (R&R) Procedures

Giving additional opportunities to achieve mastery is important because students do not all reach proficiency at the same time and in the same way. Relearning content or skills toward proficiency should result in a chance to be reassessed, as a student’s grade should reflect the best evidence of meeting the learning target. Schools are expected to develop and communicate R&R procedures to students and parents. Such procedures should incorporate the following guidelines: 1. Completion of a student-created Relearning Plan should be a component of the process. Relearning plans should include having the student: • analyze their errors or misconceptions on the previous summative assessment. • determine how to relearn the content to bring about mastery; • complete and turn in any missing assignments; • commit to date(s) and time(s) to redo the assignment or retake the assessment; and, • share the plan with their parent and teacher for approval. 2. Reteaching should be a component of the process. This should not be a repeat of the original lesson, but rather a mini lesson with strategies to target the student’s errors and opportunities to provide feedback. 3. For grades 4-12, after any major assessment, students should have the opportunity to submit a relearning plan for parent and teacher approval. Upon satisfactory completion of the plan, as determined by the teacher, students should be given a minimum of two opportunities to be reassessed. Students scoring below 70 on a major assessment should be expected to complete a relearning plan unless exempted with parent approval. 4. Teachers should have discretion to determine if R&R opportunities will be given for any minor assessment. 5. Major assessments include unit tests and projects, but do not include Content Mastery Assessments and final exams. Minor assessments include graded classwork and quizzes. 6. Reassessments should be a different version from the original. 7. The reassessment score should replace the original score (the scores should not be averaged). 8. Schools should provide reasonable timelines for the R&R process. Generally, reassessments should be completed within 7 school days of receiving the original grade. Teachers should have discretion to extend the timeline to address extenuating circumstances.

Accommodations and Modifications

1. Accommodations are changes in instruction that enable students to demonstrate their classroom abilities. They provide equity, not advantage. Appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities does not reduce or lower the standards or expectations for content and does not invalidate assessment results. Therefore, students with accommodations may earn the same credit as those not receiving accommodations. Accommodations will adhere to the State Special Education Accommodations Manual and the decisions of the IEP/504 Team. ELL (English Language Learner) teachers will follow the accommodations found in the Student Assessment Handbook and the Accessibility & Accommodations Manual.

2. Modifications according to the IEP or 504 Plans are alterations that change or reduce learning expectations. These modifications can increase the gap between the achievement of students with disabilities and expectations for proficiency at a particular grade level. Consistent use of modifications could adversely affect students throughout their educational career. Modifications on statewide assessments may invalidate the results and may not be appropriate or allowed on statewide assessments. The report card will designate modified curriculum by the assigned special education-designated course number.

Grade Reporting Cycle

1. Teachers should enter grades in the Infinite Campus gradebook on a weekly basis throughout the semester. This allows students and parents to have continuous access to current student grades. 2. Each semester represents an 18-week grading period. • Progress Report 1 will be issued at the end of the first 6 weeks. • Progress Report 2 will be issued at the end of 12 weeks. • Semester Report Card will be issued at the end of 18-week grading period. 3. Each progress report will reflect the student’s cumulative achievement (the result of all grades since the first day of the semester). 4. The student's final grade will reflect their cumulative achievement from the first day to the last day of the semester. 5. This process allows teachers to evaluate the student’s progress toward mastery of standards based on the full body of evidence from the entire semester

Parent Conferences

All parent conferences should be scheduled through our guidance office. They are most often held on Tuesday afternoons. Teachers cannot meet during school time unless prior arrangements have been made. I will answer your emails and /or calls in a timely manner during school time. Parents are also encouraged to attend Open House and any other events to be given an update on your child’s educational success as well as attendance and discipline. I do allow school day classroom visits if they have been scheduled through the front office as required.

Academic Grading Scale

A Represents an average of 90-100.

B Represents an average of 80-89.

C Represents an average of 75-79.

D Represents an average of 70-74.

F Represents an average of below 70.

High School Academic Grade Reporting.

High school student performance will be recorded and reported in all courses by numerical grades, based on a 100-point scale.

a. Calculation of Final Grades

Final grades will be determined by the cumulative semester average using the following criteria

· Minor Grades = 60%

Examples include quizzes, labs, and other graded assignments to assess certain standards in a unit of study. An average of two grades per week will be entered into infinite campus weekly if time permits.

· Major Grades = 40%

Examples include unit tests, essays, research papers, project-based assignments and other culminating assessments to measure mastery of standards that comprise a unit of study. An average of two grades per week will be entered into infinite campus weekly if time permits.

Content Mastery Assessments

These assessments are prepared by the county using the standards that have been taught during a certain time period. They are usually given quarterly in all EOC Courses. The proposed schedule is as follows:

« Unit 1 CMA 1 is scheduled for September 25-October 6, 2023.

« Unit 2 CMA 2 is scheduled to be given December 4-15, 2023.

« Unit 4 CMA 3 is scheduled to be given February 26- March 15, 2024.

**NWEA MAP Testing- dates to follow**

**HMH Testing –dates to follow**

**Exams**

Exams are normally able to be exempted if the student has maintained an overall average of 90 in the course. Please do not ask for additional work in order to raise the average to 90. If the student is exempted from the exam, parents will normally be notified appropriately, and the student is not required to report to the exempted class on the day the exam is taken. The student will NOT be marked absent if he/she has been exempted. If the student did not exempt

and does not report for the exam, a grade of zero will be issued until the student has successfully completed the exam. Additional information on this matter will be distributed schoolwide later.

**Required Text**

Course of Study

Textbook: HMH Into Literature: Please note that each student will be issued a consumable copy of the copy, as well as they will be given instructions on how to assess the book in an online version as well. The icon for the textbook will be on each student’s launchpad for easier access. It is the student’s responsibility to keep track of his/her consumable book. If the consumable book is lost, the student will have to access everything online.

**Acceptance of Late/ Missing Work:**

Please adhere to the county policy concerning this.

**Arrangement of Conferences/Classroom Visits:**

Parent/teacher conferences play a vital role in your child’s educational process. The most effective way to schedule a conference is to contact the guidance secretary and to secure a time that will be most convenient to your schedule. Conferences are NOT scheduled on Thursday afternoons due to faculty meetings. Please make sure to inform the secretary if you wish to meet with all your student’s teachers or certain ones. An administrator is usually able to attend if prior arrangements have been made.

Any form of classroom visits must be scheduled through the front office staff. They may refer you to an administrator before you visit. Therefore, it is highly recommended that you call in advance to schedule this visit. All parents/visitors MUST check in with the front office staff before coming to a classroom. You will not be permitted to enter if a visitor pass is not visible.

**Student Accommodations:**

Please inform your child’s teacher as well as guidance if you are aware of any accommodations that may be needed to make your child’s experience here at CCHS a pleasant one. It is imperative that you provide us with copies of any forms that you may have showing certain expected classroom accommodations. Your guidance counselor will be happy to assist you with any of these areas. Also, please note that you or your child should bring any doctor’s notes to our school nurse of any medical accommodations that may be needed as well.

**Cheating/Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is taking the ideas of others and presenting them as if they were the student’s original thoughts. The student will learn and develop the current techniques to reference material from other authors and sources. Cheating is talking or passing papers between students during a test, or giving and/or receiving answers on ANY assignment. Cheating will NOT be tolerated. If any portion of an assignment is created or obtained through cheating or plagiarism, the teacher will assign a “0” for the assignment with no opportunity to improve the grade. **THINK FOR YOURSELF AND DO YOUR OWN WORK!**

**Tutoring**

Students can attend tutoring sessions with Ms. Simmons as needed upon availability. They will need to schedule this ahead of time and sign a tutoring log each visit.

**Other helpful sources that can be used**

1. Familiarize yourself with Microsoft office 365 located in Launchpad
2. Make sure you are able to download teams which is located in Launchpad on a computer device such as: personal laptop, personal desktop computer, and/or personal tablet so you are able to complete and work on assignments at home if needed.
3. Sample APA questions and references click here à [APA FAQ](https://apastyle.apa.org/learn/faqs/index?_ga=2.136415991.612950096.1598965785-519542312.1598965785)

**Class rules and consequences**

**Class rules**

1. Be respectful.
2. Be on Time. On time is in your seat when the bell rings.
3. No cell phone unless teacher permits.
4. No food. Bottled/Capped drinks allowed.
5. Be ready to learn with materials needed for class.

**Classroom Norms and Consequences:**

We believe that everyone can learn.

We will keep school property clean and organized.

We will be positive—No profanity.

We will keep our hands and feet to ourselves.

We will appreciate, respect, and build upon differing

opinions.

**Consequences**

1st time: I contact the parent (Verbal Warning)

2nd time: Spotlight/ Office write Up/ Referral

**Finding Success!**

It is my sincere hope for every child to find academic success and personal growth as we unlock the riches within 9th Grade Literature. We will provide numerous opportunities for each child and parent to have access to available resources within our school and the district as we continue on our journey for success and “Commitment to Graduate!” Good luck Class of 2027!

**Please sign and date by** [**clicking**](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ShareFormPage.aspx?id=QC2yMGJzF0-DqSUwkntvZSatwO44g0ZCstGrPBAHuEpUMElQMkFONkRVRUZPS0MwRUE4MkkwVUNKNC4u&sharetoken=Sl6gthOZzUMXyILn7XnS) **here**

**Students name Print \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**Parent’s name Print sign date**

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**Parent’s name Print sign date**