Westrum

World Literature

**Introduction:**

Welcome to World Literature – in the course, we will be studying role of story telling as a cultural medium. Our primary focus: how does literature illustrate cultural values? We will be analyzing a variety of texts from a broad spectrum of locations and time periods, working to understand the ideas of cultural norms, heroism, and the concept of the villain.

**Expectations:**

It is expected that all members of the classroom treat one another with respect. Often times, ideas and theories uncovered might be grasped only with difficulty. This class is built around trying to understand the **“how”**, **“why”**, and **“so what?”** in any reading, all in a discussion format. It is **vital** that we all feel safe in expressing our opinion and asking questions.

**Assignments:**

On the front bulletin board, there is a list of the weekly itinerary. Additionally, on the board will be the day’s itinerary. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to gather materials, notes, and assignments for prompt turn-in. **ALL** assignments are due at the beginning of the hour on the assigned due date. Additionally, it is your responsibility to periodically check our class website – mrwestrum.pbworks.com – on your own time. Remember, **late work will not be accepted!**

**Grading:**

All grading is done at face value, with tests and writing assignments holding more weight. The grade scale used can be found in the student handbook.

Additionally, please remember that a ‘C’ is considered average for grade level.

**Reading:**

Assorted Myths and Short Stories

The Metamorphosis

Cyrano de Bergerac

Frankenstein

Choice Read: Count of Monte Cristo **OR** All Quiet on the Western Front

**Rules:**

I follow the code of consequences outlined in the student handbook, ensuring all students are treated equally. When the bell rings, if you are not in your assigned seat, you are tardy. By the same token, dismissal is when I deem it to be – I expect all students in your assigned seats if you want to leave with the bell. Should you ignore this latter rule, lining up at the door or leaving early, you will be marked absent for the day.

If you own a cell phone, I highly recommend you keep it with you (on silent, of course) for potential use as an aid during class. I reserve the right to restrict cell phone use at any time. Hint: don’t text or play games during class hours.

If you have any emergencies, please discuss them with me and we can make a decision together.

**Method of Turn-in:**

All assignments are due when the bell rings, unless specifically told otherwise. If an assignment needs to be typed, I expect it printed on your own time, either at home or through the Media Center. Jump drives are not allowed in school computers. If you need something from home printed, put it on your school account!

Your final project and select assignments will have a digital turn in. I expect you to turn this in via e-mail at [westrumj@gmail.com](mailto:westrumj@gmail.com). Sending attachments to my school e-mail will likely result in firewall blocking. I am NOT responsible for assignments lost digitally.

Signatures:

Student (print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Westrum

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