

Haverford High School: 9<sup>th</sup> Grade English

# Generations

Notes

## HOW TO CONTACT MS. KAISER

I will be at school each day between 7:15am – 3:00pm. You will usually find me in room 224, 217 or in the second floor teacher's work room (221). Please do not hesitate to find me if you have questions or concerns. If this causes a conflict in your schedule, feel free to call or e-mail me and we can talk outside of these hours.

Phone: 610.853.5900 ex. 2811  
Email: Kaiser@havs.net

## COURSE OVERVIEW:

- The 9<sup>th</sup> grade English course serves to facilitate essential skills in not only language arts (reading, writing, speaking and listening), but in management, evaluation and reflection that you will employ cross-curricularly and practically. Close connections will be made with content from the IAG and IPS courses and particularly the Western Civilization course.
- You will read various written works such as William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, Robert Cormier's *The Chocolate War*, and a selection of WWI poetry as well as other selected plays, novels and short stories. You will be encouraged to engage in the literature by analyzing characters, themes, and author's effectiveness and by using the literature as a resource to answer some essential questions in your Western Civilization course.
- Our writing assignments will have focus areas. Upon completion of the 9<sup>th</sup> grade English course, you will have enhanced your skills at writing effective, well-organized narrative, informational, and persuasive essays with clearly defined thesis statements. Ninth grade English students will demonstrate proficiency using the following 9<sup>th</sup> grade Focus Correction Areas (FCAs):

### Content/Organization/Style (paragraphing skills):

A focused, controlling idea  
Good examples and details  
Clear organization—intro., body, conclusion  
Appropriate transitions  
Correct sentence structure

### Form/Grammar/Mechanics:

Subject/Verb Agreement  
Pronoun/Antecedent Agreement  
Correct Spelling  
Proper and consistent use of tense  
Correct punctuation

- You will also work on speaking skills not only in your English classroom, but in all of your courses. Upon completion of 9<sup>th</sup> grade, you will have enhanced your skills in speaking such as proper gesturing, posture, voice, and eye contact.

## CLASS PROJECTS:

You will complete a number of writing and reading projects as well as some alternative assessment projects. Some of these projects will be:

- creating a writing portfolio of your best work. Included in the portfolio will be examples of narrative, informational, and creative writing styles.
- completing a research essay that aligns with your Western Civilization course. This project will teach you how to write a thesis driven paper, correctly use the MLA citation style, use the library, and how to discriminate between general and scholarly sources.
- working on a Self Selected Reading (SSR) project during the year.

Sign \_\_\_\_\_  
A. V.

# Class Expectations

## Ms. Kaiser

Haverford High School  
2005-2006

### General Expectations

- The Students and the teacher will adhere to all policies and rules as established by Haverford High School and detailed in the handbook.
- The students and the teacher will be respectful of the classroom environment and considerate of others and their personal property.
- The students and the teacher will come to class prepared with binders, pens, index cards, and assignments.

### Assignments and Grading

- Students should expect daily reading and/or review homework. Written homework will be assigned several times a week. **Quality counts just as much as completeness.**
- Student assessments will include quizzes (announced and unannounced), cumulative tests, projects, and writing assignments. Grading is done on a point basis.
- All work is expected to be completed on time. Late assignments will not merit full credit, unless due to excused absence. Generally, late work is penalized by 10% per day. If you need to turn in an assignment late, you must fill out and attach a late slip and place it in the late bin. Otherwise, it will not be accepted.
- It is the student's responsibility to complete all work and tests missed due to absence. Test and quiz makeups should be completed ASAP, at a time and place mutually agreed upon by the student and teacher. Any handouts missed will be kept in a folder marked by day (Mon., Tues., etc.) in a bin marked "A" or "B" day. You may obtain this work at the beginning of the class period and hand it in **two days after the absence** (i.e. if you are absent on Monday, the work is due Wednesday), otherwise, it is considered late. You must have an excused absence slip or work will not be graded. However, should you be absent the date a long-term assignment is due, the assignment is due the day she or he returns. You are responsible for any notes that you may have missed.
- Written assignments are expected to be typed or neatly written. Paper should be free of frayed edges.
- Copying, cheating, or plagiarizing is grounds for failing the assignment.
- You are expected to keep all graded work in your binder. It is your responsibility to keep binders updated.
- "Free Writes" will often be used in order to prompt discussion. Free writes will not be graded on a regular basis. However, they may be collected at any time in order to receive credit for completeness or may be revised and used as a grade.

### Daily Supplies

- Something to write with - a pencil or pen (black or blue ink - no gel pens, markers or crayons)
- Your class binder - you will need to keep this organized. You will need label tabs to create different sections in your binder. We will start a new section any time we start a new unit. Your English binder should be used for materials from this class only.
- Loose leaf paper...lots of it!!
- Your book/readings
- Your student planner - to help you keep track of homework assignments and upcoming projects
- Index cards, highlighters, red pens and pocket dictionaries are a great idea, but not necessarily mandatory.

5-8-10  
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### Outside of Class Assistance

- If you wish to speak to me concerning grades, missed work, or difficulties with the class work, you may set up a time to meet with me. This will usually be before the first bell or after school hours.
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