Rhetoric & Literature 9
Mrs. Cross
Syllabus for 2022-23 School Year

Teacher Information:
School email: jcross@pcsvirginia.org (Email is the best way to contact me. Please allow 24 hours for a response.)
School phone: 757-565-2900, ext. 310
Location: Building 3000, Rm.

Course Purpose:
Welcome to 9th-grade literature and rhetoric! This year, students will focus on written and spoken communication. By participating in rhetoric exercises, persuasive essay writing, reading assignments and more, students will delve deeper into the context and the messages behind the material they encounter daily.

Topics of Study:
Rhetoric:
> *The Argument Builder* by Shelly Johnson, *Word Within a Word* vocabulary, *Grammar in Writing,* researching reliable resources, *Classical Rhetoric for the Modern Student* style study exercises

Literature:
> *Mythology* by Edith Hamilton, *Gilgamesh*, *The Iliad* by Homer, *Antony & Cleopatra* by William Shakespeare, *The Odyssey* by Homer, *Till We Have Faces* by C.S. Lewis, *Agricola* by Tacitus, *Julius Cesear* by William Shakespeare
> ** Required reading may be added or taken away based on class progression through the material*

Supplies Needed:
2 spiral bound college ruled notebooks

Grading:
Grades are based on a total point system. Quarterly grades are comprised of the following tasks:

Participation: answering class questions, participating in all class discussions, contributing to the completion of small group and or partner activities, completion of in class assignments, actively listening the entire class
Essays & Projects: Final unit projects, group projects, essays, oral presentations
Homework: Any work sent home to be completed by a given due date. For example, a reading assignment, or writing assignment.
Tests & Quizzes: vocabulary quizzes, pre-quiz, unit quizzes, unit tests

Participation	40%
Essays & Projects	30%
Homework	10%
Tests & Quizzes	20%

Late Work:
Standard for Dialectic School is work must be turned in the following day to receive a 70%

Standard for Rhetoric School is work must be turned in the following day to receive a 64%

Absences: The student handbook clearly addresses absences and tardies from class. This is directly from the handbook:

> All absences are disruptive to the educational process and every effort should be made to attend school regularly. <u>Dated notes stating the specific reason for the absence and signed by a parent or guardian will be required on the first day of return to school.</u>
>
> If the number of absences (excused or unexcused) exceeds 15% of the number of days in the quarter, the Head of School will schedule a meeting with the student's parents to determine whether the student will receive credit for the quarter.
>
> Including, but not limited to, illness, family emergencies, and deaths in the family will be considered <u>excused absences</u>. Family trips which cannot be taken at any other time and which are approved by the Head of School (Extended Leave Form) at least one week in advance will be considered <u>excused absences</u>. Any other absences will be considered <u>unexcused</u>. When extended absences are voluntary, teachers should be notified **at least one week beforehand and all schoolwork (including tests, quizzes, papers, projects, etc.) should be completed within the time specified by the teacher**. For work not completed by the teacher's designated time, a grade of zero will be entered in the grade book. Teachers may provide students with work in advance of an absence but are not required to do so. In general, we recommend that families coordinate travel schedules with the school calendar to avoid voluntary extended absences.

By signing this, I am verifying that I have read the syllabus, understand the contents, and agree to abide by the syllabus, or to support my student in abiding by the syllabus.

Please sign and return this form.

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Grade: _____

Student email address (please print clearly): _____

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Parent/Guardian Name (print): _____

Parent/Guardian email: _____

Parent/Guardian phone: _____

Preferred method of communication (circle one):   phone   email

Parent Signature _____ Date: _____