**Contemporary Literature**

**Instructor: Mrs. Sweet**

**Room 33**

**Course Description:**

Stories are an essential part of every human culture; they help us to create meaning and to understand ourselves, each other and our place in the world. The means by which these stories are told—whether they are written, spoken, or acted on stage or screen – influences the way we approach and interpret them. During Contemporary Literature we will attempt to view literature through a critical lens, creating reflective readers who are able to apply personally meaningful criteria to make evaluative judgments about texts within and across genres, influencing their choices and interests as readers.

**Materials:**

An English notebook, writing implement, current literature and your nook, are to be brought to class EVERY DAY.

**Grading:**

Students will have various writing assignments throughout the semester, from shorter, more informal journal entries to longer more well developed essays, critiques etc., which will account for 30% of each quarter’s grade.

Students will also have in-class / homework assignments, and group work, as well as, tests and quizzes over assigned reading / literary concepts etc. which will account for 45% of each quarter’s grade.

New this school year… Students will be given a weekly attendance grade which will account for 25% of the quarter grade.

A Semester test / project will be given… Everyone will get to participate.

**Late Assignments / Academic Integrity:**

Assignments are to be handed in at the beginning of the period on the day that they are due (unless otherwise stipulated by me). Thirty Percentage points will be deducted from assignments turned in by 4:30 (the end of the class day). All assignments received after 4:30 will receive half credit unless the student has an excused absence. With an excused absence appropriate time will be granted to make up late assignments as outlined in the student handbook.

If you choose to copy another student’s work, or are not actively participating in group work you will split the credit on that assignment. (You get 50% and the person you are copying gets 50 %.)

Cheating and plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated and will result in a zero on the assignment and appropriate disciplinary action.

**Class Rules:**

1. Be Respectful. Disrespect of yourself, others, school property etc. will not be tolerated.
2. Be Nice. You do not have the right to make anyone else feel uncomfortable in the classroom.
3. Be Responsible. It is **your responsibility** to complete the work in this class, and to obtain assignments and materials that you may have missed due to absence.
4. Be Prepared. Come to class prepared to learn with all necessary books and supplies.
5. No food or beverage (other than water) is allowed in the classroom.

I have discussed the classroom procedures with your student, but hope that you will also go over these procedures together. By reading and signing the above classroom rules and procedures your student is agreeing to be held accountable for their actions in the classroom. I look forward to working with you to make this a successful semester.

Sincerely,

Jessica Sweet

Student’s Name (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN BY** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(You will receive a grade for reading, understanding, and returning this form.)

EXTRA CREDIT:

CONTACT INFORMATION:

NAME AND RELATION TO STUDENT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

BEST NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

BEST TIME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_