**Buford High School**

Course Syllabus

**Course Title** **Multicultural Literature Term…………Fall Semester 2016**  
Teacher Mrs. Gloria Walton room # ………….……………..6202

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| Email Address **Teacher Web Page** | [gloria.walton@bufordcityschools.org](mailto:gloria.walton@bufordcityschools.org)  bhswalton.weebly.com |
| Teacher Support (Help sessions etc.) | Help sessions are available before school on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** at 7:00 a.m. in room 6202.  Upgrade will be held on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays** from 2:45-4:00. A bus will run at 4:00 for Upgrade students. You must have a pass from your teacher to ride the bus. |

### Course Description

In accordance with the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE), **Multicultural Literature** integrates writing, grammar, literature, research, listening, speaking, collaborating, and critical thinking skills. Throughout the course, students will develop writing skills that are critical for success in all academic areas. This course is designed to give students the fundamentals necessary to achieve success in grammar and mechanics, sentence structure, paragraphs and writing. We will utilize Greek and Latin root words in vocabulary units, and will frequently practice reading comprehension passages with questions in the Milestone format, and test-taking skills. This course will include a wide variety of texts: fiction, informational, poetry and research material. Students will incorporate various elements of literature as they analyze texts and make connections between reading content and their own lives.

### Course Curriculum Content

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| **Georgia standards of Excellence** | **Units/Topics** |
| The GSE (Georgia Standards of Excellence) for English Language Arts can be accessed online at  <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Pages/ELA-9-12.aspx> | Buford High school Language Arts Units are divided into two 9-weeks units per semester. ALL GSE standards will be addressed and assessed each unit, so students will be exposed to each standard no less than four times each year.  **Unit 1: What Is Worth Fighting For?** Focus: Literary  Anchor text***: The Contender*** by Robert Lipsyte (761L)  as well as selections in our text, including:  “Checkouts” by Cynthia Rylant  “Two Kinds” by Amy Tan “Rice and Rose Bowl Blues”  “Seabiscuit: An American Legend”  “Rosa Parks” and “I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings” by Maya Angelou  **Unit 2: What Does It Take to Be a Survivor?**  Focus: Informational  Anchor text: ***A Child Called It*** by Dave Pelzer (850L)  as well as selections in our text, including:  “Angela’s Ashes” by Frank McCourt  and from ***Gifted Hands*** the Ben Carson Story |

### Instructional Materials and Supplies

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| **Published Materials** | **Instructional Supplies** |
| McDougall Littell ***Literature*,** copyright 2011  by Holt-McDougal  Additional reading material as needed  (these will be provided for you in class) | 1. Pencils, lined notebook paper   **(Please bring these to class daily)**   1. Pen, with black or blue ink for writing assignments 2. Notebook – 1 inch binder 3. Five notebook dividers 4. Assigned Reading Material (book or handouts) 5. Flash Drive is useful to save research material |

**Evaluation and Grading**

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| **Assignments** | **Grade Weights** | **Grading Scale** |
| Benchmark Assessments (3 per semester)  Reading, Grammar, and Vocabulary Quizzes  Research  In-class Essays, including Performance Essay  Reading, Grammar and Vocabulary Unit Tests | Benchmarks 30%  Essays/Major Writing 25%  (includes Performance Exam)  Tests 25%  Quizzes & Daily Grades 20%  **Note: Assignments that are not completed by the announced due date are worth only 70% of the grade earned. Assignments that are more than a week late will receive a zero.** | A: 90 and above  B: 80 - 89  C: 74 - 79  D: 70 - 73 F: 69 or below |

**Other Information**

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| **Expectations for Academic Success** |
| 1. Read daily. “*The person who does not read has little advantage over the person who cannot read*.” Mark Twain 2. Ask questions. We don’t know that you don’t know until you ask. 3. Come to class prepared to learn each day. 4. Make up work missed promptly (within 5 days) in the event of absence. 5. Participate constructively as a team member. 6. Challenge yourself to continuously improve. |

***The syllabus may be updated as needed throughout the semester.***

**Honor Code Policy:**

All BHS students will strictly adhere to the **BHS Honor Code** which is posted on the BHS website.

For any violation of the BHS Honor Code, students **will receive a 0** and be referred to the administration.

**Attendance Excused Absence Policy:**

* Students are responsible for making up all work missed due to absences.
* All pre-assigned work will be due on the day of a student’s return from an absence.
* Assignments that are not made up by the specified time receive a grade of zero (0).

**upon returning to school, it is the student’s responsibility to make**

**arrangements Within 5 days to make up work.**

**All policies outlined in the BCSS student CODE OF CONDUCT and**

**the BHS student handbook will be followed in this classroom.**

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| **Teacher consequences for Minor Classroom Disruptions** | |
| 1st | Penalty assigned at teacher’s discretion: may include conference, teacher detention, and parent contact |
| 2nd | 30 minute faculty detention and parent contact |
| 3rd | 1 hour faculty detention and parent contact |
| 4th | Administrative Referral |

Please sign the form and return to school by Monday, August 8, 2016.

**I have read and I understand the syllabus for Multicultural Literature, Semester 1.**

Parent’s signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Best way to contact you when needed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(email, cell, or home phone)

Student’s choice for accessing the textbook: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Textbook (will be issued upon request) Cost if not returned: $ 75.00

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Text on CD (will be issued upon request) Cost if not returned: $75.00

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Web address for online text (user name and password needed)