Welcome students and parents to the 2017-18 school year. My name is Charlotte Smith and I am the ~~your~~ English 12 teacher. I grew up in the Cody Rouge neighborhood and consider this home. I have been teaching in DPS for over 20 years. I have multiple degrees. I consider learning to be a lifelong process and value your education. I am also one of the Senior Class Sponsors and am very involved in every aspect of your senior year. I hope to make this a memorable experience. School should be fun as well as academic. I am here to guide you along this journey and will be here for you long after you graduate.

**Course Description:** This course is designed to prepare students for continuing education. As seniors, it is important for students to realize what is expected of them in college/vocational training and in the job market. This course will focus on reading, British Literature, and writing complex essays and research papers. It endeavors to increase the student’s ability to interpret and enjoy various types of literature. It is intended for students who are willing to accept a challenge. Students will examine important literary works in many genres (drama, poetry, novel, essay, short story, etc.) Students will write frequently about their reading using expository, creative and critical approaches to the materials read. Logical organization of thought in oral discussions and essays will be stressed. Public Speaking will also be included in this course. SAT, Personal Statement and college entrance essays will also be stressed. A guided section is planned to assist students in their quest for financial aid for college, searching the internet for college information and assisting students in their choice for life after High School. This course offers an excellent background for college bound students.

**Goal:** By the end of the 2017-18 school year, at least 90% of the students who have attended school 90% of the time, will show a measured improvement in these areas: reading and writing. Students will also have an appreciation for the written word--either for enjoyment or information.

**Objectives:**

-Students will be able to write a Research Paper and create a Senior Portfolio

-Students will be able to self and peer evaluate an essay

-Students will be able to write a reflective essay

-Students will be able to analyze constructive literary topics in group discussions

-Students will be able to read silently for expanded periods of time in the classroom

-Students will be able to compare/contrast various reading selections

-Students will be able to comprehend literary techniques implemented in writing

-Students will be able to comprehend reading strategies (KWL, QAR, etc.)

-Students will be able to master all writing strands

**Textbooks:** (Lost or stolen textbooks will become the financial responsibility of the student)

Animal Farm Hamlet

Elements of Literature \*\* Novels are subject to change without notice

**Homework Policy:** Homework will be assigned at least onces per week. Students are expected to copy assignments from the board. Homework will consist of reading, writing, and studying. **NO LATE ASSIGMENTS ACCEPTED unless accompanied by a written EXCUSE!! No late projects or major papers will be accepted under any circumstances! Late work will be reduced by 25% from the student’s earned grade.**

**Classroom Expectations:**

-Students bring supplies to class each day, including their notebook for this class

-Students turn in all assignments by the due date unless otherwise pre-arranged

-Students adhere to the Student Code of Conduct

-Students remove all hats, caps, stocking caps, scarves, and gloves in the classroom

-Students arrive to class on time!!!

-Students adhere to the uniform policy

* **Backpacks, coats, hoodies and other outerwear are not allowed in the classroom. Students must have their own lockers with a lock. Locks can be purchased in the school Bookstore. Rooms may be cold therefore students can wear long sleeves under their uniform shirts or cardigan sweaters.**
* **There will be no passes for the first or last 20 minutes of class.**

\*\*Daily attendance will be recorded and excessive absences may adversely affect a student’s grade.

**Grading Scale:**

All assignments are given a point value (usually 100). Larger projects and research papers will be valued at more than one grade. All points will be added then divided by the total number of assignments x 100. This will provide a percentage 100-90=A, 89-80=B 70-79=C, 60-69=D, 59 and Below=F. Class participation and attendance are imperative to student learning. There will be one large project each quarter and a large project each semester. Therefore, 10% of a student’s final grade will be earned for attendance and 10% for participation. Students and parents have access to grades at all times via the student/parent portal.

**Credit hours:** .5

**Supplies Needed:** Each student is REQUIRED to keep one notebook (spiral or other bound paper will do) for class notes and reading logs. One 3 ring binder, with dividers, is needed for Student’s Learning Goals. Pens must also be used in class. I do allow notebooks to be used during tests (this promotes good note taking). Paper will be needed daily. **Students will also need a working email that is professional (i.e.** [**lastnamefirstname@whatever.com**](mailto:lastnamefirstname@whatever.com)**)**. Access to a computer and internet will also be necessary. The public library offers both. Students may also request after-school assistance from me, in advance.

**Instructional Sequence:**

**September:**

Pre-Assessment

The Anglo Saxon Period

-from Beowulf

-College-readiness Portfolio

-Scholarship Search

**October:**

**FAFSA**

The Middle Ages

-The Canterbury Tales

-Senior Portfolio due

FAFSA Parent Night/TBA

**November**:

The Renaissance Period

-Hamlet

**December:**

Cause and Effect

-Essay writing

Scholarship Search

**January:**

Begin Research paper (2nd Semester)

**February**

-from “Gulliver’s Travels”

Part I: “A Voyage to Lilliput”

Part II: “ A Voyage to Brobingnag”

-”A Modest Proposal”

**March**

Research Papers Due

Animal Farm

Revise Portfolio

**April**

Oral presentations

College Readiness

**May**

Post Assessment

Novel \*\*TBD

**\*\*Curriculum may change without notice**

We will be focusing on intensive reading and writing. Outside reading (student choice) is required. Frequent work on the internet and library usage will be stressed. I value your education and expect you to do the same. Parental involvement is welcomed and encouraged. Reading and Writing strategies will also be a focus of the curriculum. We will focus on the following strategies and applications in order to strengthen student skills and prepare students for work, higher level educational setting or vocational training:

**Missed Assignments**

Homework will be assigned once per week. Students are expected to copy assignments from the board. Homework will consist of reading, writing, and studying, and working on projects. **NO LATE ASSIGMENTS ACCEPTED unless accompanied by an EXCUSE!! No late projects or major papers will be accepted under any circumstances!!**

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism (cheating or copying) will NOT be tolerated and will be reflected as a zero for that assignment and possible failure in the course. Continuous plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course.

**Contact Information**

If either student or parent needs to contact me, for any reason, it is best to reach me through E-Mail. My E-Mail address is charlotte.smith02@detroitk12.org (please place student name in the subject line) or you may call 313-866-9200 and leave a message. My cell phone number is 734-658-3031. Please no calls or texts after 9PM. Parents may **make an appointment** to see me during my planning time which is Tuesday-Friday from 8am-9:45m.

Because I want to be kind to the environment, I am providing an electronic copy of the syllabus. You can find this at MCHCODY.COM. Please go to Teacher Websites and find C. Smith (English). It will be in the Syllabus tab.

Parents, please sign and have student return this page to teacher. Returning this portion is 100 points and is a grade.

I have read and understand the course syllabus for English 12. I also understand that it is my child’s responsibility to secure any missed assignments and to turn work in on time. I know that my son/daughter will have knowledge of their grade at all times and I can request, of my child, to see their folder for English. I also understand that my son/daughter will need to be well equipped with school supplies during the school year. A notebook, paper, pens, and a folder will be required in class each day. Cell phone/texting usage is NOT allowed in the class for ANY reason! A note will be sent from home when my son/daughter is absent if requesting make up work. I also understand that my child will need access to the internet and a working printer for assignments and projects. I understand that the public library offers internet access.

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Parent Signature Student Name (Please Print)

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Date Student Signature

Parent Phone/Email

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**Parents-- class instructional time will not be interrupted by visitors to the classroom for any reason. A conference or an appointment may be arranged by contacting me by phone on my prep hour and preferably by email. If you need to contact your son/daughter, please contact his/her counselor or the main office at 866-9200. Also, I can NOT release students from the classroom to anyone without a pass from an administrator.**

**Email:** [charlotte.smith02@detroitk12.org](mailto:charlotte.smith02@detroitk12.org)

**Cell: 734-658-3031(I do not answer during class. Please text or leave a voicemail and I will be happy to return your call or text during non-instructional time)**

**Planning Time: Tuesday-Friday 8:00am-9:45am**