

"HONORS" DESIGNATION FOR MULTICULTURAL LIT/COMP AND BRITISH LIT/COMP

Note to Parents from Margaret Shuman:

From time to time, parents are interested in making a course "Honors." I haven't pushed the honors designation in the past, nor am I pushing it now. Our students are busy, and I purposely do not load them down with work that they can't complete well--I'd rather see learning than just busy-ness. As a parent, however, you have an idea of about how much work your child can handle well in a year, and I'm happy for you to decide if you want to add to my standard expectations.

Reading is one of the best ways to improve language arts and life skill areas, so I have made a way for you to upgrade either Multicultural Lit/Comp or British Lit/Comp class to honors-level, based on the reading of 6 books and the presentation of one project. If the following requirements are completed to my satisfaction, I will provide each honors student with a custom grade report at the end of the school year with "Honors" before the title of the class.

Breakdown of honors requirements for ML or BL for 2017-18:

- A prospective honors student will **read 6 books from the appropriate ML or BL section of my usual summer reading list**, found at my website. Books read in the summer for extra credit may count toward these 6 books.
- One book will be evaluated at a time, by the student first making an appointment with me via email at shumanhw@gmail.com. I will evaluate the reading of each book either by oral review or writing, at my discretion. I will decide if the reading merits credit toward the 6-book honors requirement. All reading will be completed and evaluated by 6:00p, May 1, 2018.
- At any point in the year, the student will choose one book and **propose a project that the book inspires**. If the project concept is approved by me, he will have until 6:00p, May 1, 2018, to **present the project in person** to me and another person at an appointment time/location that suits all of us.
- As in summer reading credit, each book can receive a 100/100 credit in Engrade, 3 books credited first semester and 3 in the second. A student cannot receive credit for more than 3 books per semester.

Please write me with questions at shumanhw@gmail.com!