- Kalamazoo Public Schools -

**Utopian & Dystopian Fiction**

Course Syllabus

**Kalamazoo Central High School  
2013-2014  
U & D Fiction**

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**Class Website: http://UtopianandDystopianFiction.weebly.com/  
337-0330 x 490  
Room 359**

**Course Description:** (Taken from Course Bulletin)

*In this 1 trimester (12-week) course we will be reading and writing about utopian and dystopian literature, exploring the social and political structures they present, and also the themes of the literature. Much of the literature we read will be linked to current societal and political issues, and this course will focus on discussion about these issues.***1 trimester – 0.5 elective credit**

**Required Reading:**

*Utopia*by Thomas Moore

*News from Nowhere*by William Morris  
*Brave New World* by Aidous Huxley  
*1984*by George Orwell  
*Watchmen* by Alan Moore  
*The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood

(selections from) *Ender’s Game* by Orson Scott Card

“Harrison Bergeron” by Kurt Vonnetgut

**Literature Circle Selections:**

*V for Vendetta* by Alan Moore (1988)  
*Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro (2005)  
*The Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld (2005)  
*The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins (2008)  
*Wither* by Lauren DeStefano (2011)  
*Divergent* by Veronica Roth (2011)

**Evaluation/Grading Criteria:**

*Graded activities include: discussion participation, written responses, blog posts, and a Wiki website project.*

**Grading Scale:**

Assignments/Course Work 30%,

Homework 20%,

Quizzes 20%,

Tests/Projects/Performance Assessments 30%

**Common Growth Assessment *(Final Exam)* 20%**

**Make-up Policy:**

* **LATE WORK IS NOT ACCEPTED.**   
  The only way I will accept anything late is with a “late pass.”   
  You will receive 3 (and only 3) late passes at the beginning of the trimester.
* Your **daily attendance** is the most important step you can take to succeed in school.
* If you are absent for any reason, you have **two** days to submit your missed work.
* It is **YOUR** responsibility to get your missing work – check the missing work binder and ask another student what you missed.   
  You may also ask me what you missed at the end of class, or before or after school.

**Classroom Expectations:  
*I expect the best from you at all times – I have high expectations set for all of you!***

**The basic rules for our class are:**

1. **Be Prepared** - Be alert and ready to learn - this means that when the bell rings you should have a pencil/pen and your warm-up on your desk.
2. **Be Respectful** - Respect means that you treat everyone as equals even if you disagree with them. This includes **raising your hand** if you have a question/comment. Being respectful also means to watch your language – remember you are in school!
3. **Take Ownership** – Be responsible. This means that you, and only you, are accountable for yourself, your belongings and your actions.
4. **Follow the Student Handbook Expectations** – *They are there for a reason!  
   They include:*

* ***Cell phones, iPods, headphones, and other electronics need to be put away. If I see any of these items, I reserve the right to confiscate the item for the remainder of the day and call home.***
* *Backpacks need to be put away in your locker*
* ***NO HALL PASSES in the first 30 minutes of class or the last 15 minutes.***
* *Follow the school dress code*
* *Wear your school ID*
* *No hats or hoods*
* *Tardy Policy   
  (referral & detention on the 3rd and 6th tardy, referral & further action for 7th tardy)*

Overall these rules are in place to make sure that our class is moving smoothly.   
**Serious offenses may result in immediate consequences.**

**Rewards for Positive Behavior/Performance:**

* Good grades! If you are paying attention and performance well on a daily basis, a good grade is almost a guarantee!
* If I see you doing great work, I will call home and let them know what a great job you’re doing!
* Footprints
* Positive comments – I’ll let you know you’re awesome. ☺

**Consequences for Negative Behavior/Performance:**

* Time-Out in the hallway & teacher-student conference
* After-school detention (with me in room 359 unless otherwise stated)
* Student-Teacher Contract
* Sent to SRC -> Disciplinary Referral

**Bullying:** KPS has adopted a new policy regarding bullying. If you, as a student, are being bullied (or if you are witness to someone bullying someone else) you should file a report with a teacher. The teacher will fill out the report, and turn it in to administration. If bullying goes unreported and undocumented, teachers and other adults may not know that it is occurring. **Please report bullying to a teacher.**

**Movie Clause:** By signing this syllabus, parents/guardians agree to allow their student to watch the following film as part of our curriculum:

*Ender’s Game* (2013) rated PG-13

Student: *(print)* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student: *(signature)* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian**: *(print)* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian**: *(signature)* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Relationship to Student**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Phone Number**(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian e-mail**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*(Optional)*

**10 points for turning in your syllabus signed!**

**- Miss Brower**