**Senior English—Contemporary World Literature**

**Austin Catholic High School**

**Mrs. Thomas**

**2015-2016**

**Supplies you will need**

Stenographer’s note book (to leave in class)

Lined paper and a folder for English

Pens or pencils (your own, not mine or your neighbor’s)

Highlighters

Fully charged iPad

**Class structure**

Students will explore a wide variety of literature from around the world.

Texts will include:

*The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls

*The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho

*Santa Clause in Baghdad*, a collection of short stories edited by Elsa Marston

*Between Shades of Gray* by Ruta Sepetys

*Life of Pi* by Yann Martel

*Boxers* (and *Saints*) by Gene Luen Yang

*Barefoot Heart: Stories of a Migrant Child* by Elva Trevino Hart

Additional short stories, poems, films, and non-fiction articles to help facilitate thematic discussions and build awareness of our role in a wider world

Students will produce writing for various purposes and audiences.

Students will improve their reading comprehension and vocabulary.

**My basic rules**

Be in your seat with all materials when the bell rings

Be respectful of other people’s feelings, opinions, possessions, and personal space

Do not interfere with anyone’s right to learn or my ability to teach

Be seated, quiet, and attentive when others speak (this includes the p.a. announcements)

Learn and follow my classroom procedures and routines

Follow all school rules



**Consequences**

Warning

Seat change

Loss of privilege

Detention

Parent contact

Removal from class

Referral to the office

Written apology

**My basic procedures**

When you enter class…

Sit in your assigned seat

Copy the day’s agenda

Start the “do now” assignment

When class is over…

Wait for me to dismiss you, not the bell

When you are absent…

Get your make up work immediately when you enter class from the absent binder or find it on my Weebly

Also, see me immediately to schedule tests or quizzes that you missed

Turn in any assignments that were due the day you were gone

When you need to leave the room…

You need my permission (I rarely write passes)

When you finish an in-class assignment early…

You may read, check your agenda, pick up corrected work, study, use approved online practice activities, etc.

You may not do non-educational activities (e.g. talk, put on make-up, write notes, play games, take pictures, etc.)

**Grade Scale**

**Austin Catholic Official Grading Scale will be used.**

**Weighted Grades**

**Class work, homework, notes, and activities 30%**

**Quizzes and tests 30%**

**Papers and projects 30%**

**Participation 10%**

**Absent/Late Work Policy**

High school work is demanding. It’s highly recommended that students miss as few days as possible.

Students who are absent can find links to handouts, power points, and notes on my website.

Students will be given a reasonable amount of days to make up absent work, usually one day for each day absent.

**One** late assignment (for full credit) will be accepted each marking period. It will be noted in PowerSchool that the assignment was late.

**No other late assignments will receive points.**

**Contact Information**

Mrs. Thomas’ website: [www.mrsthomasaustin.weebly.com](http://www.mrsthomasaustin.weebly.com)

My website will have links to handouts, to online practice, and to any texts we will use in class.

Mrs. Thomas’ email: [cthomas@austincatholicacademy.org](mailto:cthomas@austincatholicacademy.org)

I check my email periodically during the school day. I will occasionally check my school email from home and respond to students’ questions about assignments. Often students can answer basic question about assignments, grades, due dates, etc. by checking my website, checking Power School, or contacting a fellow student. Please allow 24 hours for an email response.