Mr. White
English

First, read this and take the vow:

I am a human who is capable of independent critical thought. I pledge to use my own ideas in this class. I understand that stealing ideas from other people or machines violates Tabor's academic honesty policy. All the work that I turn for this class will be my own. This I pledge.

How to reach me:
Email: cwhite@taboracademy.org
I check email at least three times a day, but I do not check every minute. Please make sure that you understand the assignment before you leave class.

Office Hours: The following times, I will be available in my office. You may make appointments to come visit during office hours or you may just stop in.

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Block 2	Block 1		7:30	7:30

Class Organization:
OnCampus/Podium will provide you the link to the course blog:
Honors English 2: moresofas.blogspot.com
English 4: sharkoutlaws.blogspot.com or mrcwhitesharkcinema.blogspot.com

Many magical items reside on the blog, so bookmark it, subscribe to it, or even link it to your Facebook account if it makes things ez4u.

The New Yorker:
No other literary magazine can compare with The New Yorker, which has published many of the greatest short stories ever written. Tabor has an online account, providing us with access to story and poetry archives.
How to log in:

New Yorker www.newyorker.com
Username = library@taboracademy.org
Password = seawolf

If you don't like reading the New Yorker stories on the online magazine viewing app, you can save as PDF by choosing print, then selecting the PDF option rather than a printer.

Class expectations:
Come to class prepared--with all materials and having done the reading or assignment. Please arrive on time and in dress code.

Discussion: Class discussion should be amongst classmates—not between one or two people. Both talking and listening are part of a good discussion. Some of your discussion will be graded.

Independent reading:
You are expected to read a book *of your choice* for at least one half hour a week. You may read a novel, an

autobiography—whatever you want; but you must *read*. Plan to finish at least one book and write one review (more on this later) per marking period. Reviews are due the last day of each marking period.

Organization:
Please have a separate binder, binder section, or at least a notebook for English. You should take notes during class discussion; you may find your notes helpful when you are writing an essay. If I am writing on the board or presenting with the projector, then you should be taking notes. You may NOT use your laptop, phone, tablet, or other electronic machine to take notes. Note taking is an important skill for college; I will teach you how to take notes and test you on your ability to do so. Some reading assignments will be made available online. You'll have the option to print these on your own or read them on your device without printing. You'll need legitimate books for this class. iBooks and Kindle are fine, but don't steal some sketchy copy off the internet -- some of these will carry viruses, others are hard to read, and still others are actually copied wrong with missing pages, chapters, words, sentences, etc.

Evaluation:
You will be graded on a TOTAL POINTS WITH WEIGHT system on ONCAMPUS. All work will fit into two categories: Writing (for written work including paragraph responses, papers, major presentations or projects, and other exercises involving writing) and Preparation (including homework, quizzes, graded discussions, small projects, etc)

IMPORTANT: At the beginning of the semester, assignments will count for fewer points than will similar assignments at the end of the term. A two-page paper in September might count for 20 points, while an essay of the same length may count for 60 points in January. Why?

1. Grades will be calculated by categories:
   HONORS Eng 2: Writing 85%, Preparation 15%
   English 2: Writing 85%, Preparation 15%
   SENIORS: Writing 85%, Preparation 15%

2. No extra-credit.
3. No test corrections. This isn't maths. For most take-home essays, students will have the opportunity to write a total of two drafts for credit.
4. Discussion of particular grades will not take place in class. Students must talk to the instructor during extra help or similar free time. Grades are personal business and do not concern classmates.

Laptops:
You should bring laptops with you to class and keep them in your backpacks. **You may not use them in class unless I ask you to.**

Writing:
Students will upload most assignments to Turnitin.com. All Final Drafts go through Turnitin.com. Familiarize yourself with the site and learn the commenting system. I'll use two types of comments -- short "bubble" ones that appear in the text and "rubric" and/or "paragraph" ones that appear in the little window to the right of the paper.

Drafts: For some writing assignments that are not timed essays, students will submit a first draft. You will receive comments on that draft, revise it, and then turn it in again as a revised draft. Any changes should be in **bold** print. It is possible to get a lower grade on a revision than you received on a first draft. A revised draft that is sparsely or poorly revised, for example, would receive a grade lower than the first draft did. First drafts should be as free from grammatical and spelling errors as you can possibly make them. Final drafts should have no mechanical errors.

Conferences: You will conference with me about one time every three weeks. Come to conferences prepared, having read my comments on your paper and formulated your responses to them.

Due Dates: Please turn in copies of all drafts to Drive or Turnitin.com ***by 8 AM the day that the paper is due.*** A paper turned in *after* 8 AM is late. (See below.) Computer glitches happen—usually the morning a paper is due; plan for disaster. You will not need to turn in a hard copy of your paper unless I ask you specifically to do so.

Late paper policy:
* The department policy for late work is as follows:
* If the student has made no prior arrangement with the teacher for submission of late work, the student's grade is penalized 10 percentage points (10 points for a 100-point essay and 5 points for a 50-point essay). The student is then required to speak with the teacher to arrange for a due date within a reasonable period of time. For example, if the student fails to submit her essay on Friday with no prior arrangement, then the student and teacher may agree that the essay is to be submitted on Monday with the essay penalized 10% of the total point assessment. Should the student fail to submit her essay on that Monday, then the teacher and student confer about the problem (with the advisor brought into the conversation) and additional lateness points MAY be assessed.
Rationale: submission of work to meet deadlines is an important life skill.

Study aids:
The English department frowns upon the use of study aids (except in the RARE situations when these readings are *explicitly assigned* as homework). Please read the *texts*. If you have a question about a text, see me or ask the question in class. (If you're confused, someone else probably is as well!) Your job here is to learn how to read and understand literature—*not* to download someone else's analysis of a text. You will submit essays to a Turnitin.com, a program that will check for plagiarism. Remember: borrowing another person's ideas and passing them off as your own is plagiarism, just as cutting and pasting actual words is.

Writing folders:
Your Turnitin.com account is your writing folder: You and I both have access to it at all times.

In general:
Take the time to think about what we read and discuss in this class. Thinking is a frustrating assignment--impossible to quantify and difficult to display. Thinking, though, is the task most crucial to your improvement as a student of literature and as a writer in general. Consider other opinions and points of view, but please think for yourselves.
Students will do their own work. Please refer to the school's policy on Academic Honesty. Do not plagiarize. Some assignments will require cooperation; this will be made clear and does not include copying.

When in doubt, NEVER accept outside help on any assignment. When not in doubt, NEVER accept outside help.

DO NOT CHEAT on tests, quizzes or homework, either. Do not steal fictional stories and pass them off as your own story. Academic Dishonesty will have disciplinary repercussions, and it never looks great to college admissions officers or parents.