

# Course Outline for Accelerated English 10

2019-2020

Mrs. Rankin

## The Course

Given that you are currently sitting in English 113, it's safe to assume that one (or both) of the following is true: one, you *like* English, or two, you're good at English. Let's get something straight off the bat: This is not a class that focuses on the basics of English. You won't be identifying verbs, regurgitating plot points, answering study questions, or diligently copying notes from a PowerPoint that your teacher reads to you off the wall. In this class, fruitful discussion reigns supreme. Opinions – *all* opinions – count (provided they're supported by relevant supporting evidence). This is a class that asks you to weigh in on the *issues* raised by the writings we read, not to tell us what the writings we read are about. You are expected to be able to read deeply, think critically, and write powerfully by the end of the year. You will be asked to know certain terms over the course of the year. More importantly, though, you'll need to be able to clearly *explain* how those terms function in a given medium. By the end of the year, you will successfully execute narrative/reflective writing, literary analysis, persuasive writing, and, of course, MLA-based research. Sharp grammar and usage is the expectation for all writing. Well-honed writing and critical thinking skills are essential in your remaining years at Jackson and beyond. English class is about much, much more than books, as you'll come to discover.

**I understand that your grades are important to you. You'll have clear guidelines for each assignment; follow them to get the grade you want. Your name is attached to work, so take pride in it. Be assured that each and every one of you will receive the grade you have *earned*, not the one to which you feel entitled. Don't expect to do writing assignments at the absolute last minute and achieve perfection, and please don't come in on the last day of the nine weeks wondering what you can do to get your C to a B or your B to an A.**

## Course Goals

Our main goal for you this year is to help you to continue your growth as an effective communicator and critical thinker. We will be working towards this goal in several ways. We expect you to

- build your knowledge base, gain new insights, and broaden your perspectives through diverse selections of literature, poetry, and informational texts.
- write for a variety of purposes by demonstrating a command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage.
- expand your vocabulary through analyzing word usage, figurative language, and word relationships and nuances of words.
- participate in discussions and develop presentations that incorporate multiple sources of information, yet maintain a clear and distinct perspective.

## Expectations

- Be respectful to others, to your teacher, to yourself.
- Meet deadlines. Always.
- **Never** plagiarize.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions.
- Come to class prepared.
- Think critically, read deeply, have well-supported and reasoned opinions.
- Check the Week at a Glance posted on our websites to remind yourself of deadlines and assignments.

## Grading Policy and Procedures

You will be graded on your ability to meet the established criteria for each assignment using the following grading scale

A=90-100

C=70-79

F= 59-0

B=80-89

D=60-70

## Product Grades

85% of your total grade: essays, projects, major assignments, some quizzes, tests

## Process Grades

15% of your total grade: homework checks, some quizzes, small assignments

Expectations for each assignment will be explained in class. It is YOUR responsibility to ask for clarification and/or help. Assignment guidelines will also be posted on Google Classroom, so there's no excuse for losing guidelines.

## Grade Codes in SunGard/eSchools

- X- you are exempt from the assignment
- Z- the assignment is missing, but you may still complete it and turn it in for all or partial points (point totals subject to teacher discretion)
- 0-you will earn zero points for the assignment; it may not be turned in for all or partial points.

## Late Work

- Work is considered late if it is not turned in by the given deadline. This could be 11:59 p.m. to Google Classroom or in class. Deadlines will be clear. Follow them, please.
- Ten percentage points will be deducted **daily** for any major projects or writing assignments not turned in on the day they are due.
- Late homework will NOT be accepted.

## Excused Absences

- You have the same number of days you are absent to make up missing work.
- If you are absent the day an assignment is due or the day of a quiz/test, you **MUST** make it up on the day you return.
- **If you are absent the day a project or paper is due, you still need to turn it in. You MUST submit it to Google Classroom, or turnitin.com, or have a friend or relative bring it in for you**

## Unexcused Absences

Any unexcused absence will result in a zero for the work missed on the day of the unexcused absence. This includes unexcused tardies.

## Materials

- Folder or binder for handouts, notes.
- Pens/Pencils
- Paper
- Post it notes may be helpful

## Reading for 113 (books in bold are books that you'll need to purchase)

- *Choice summer reading book*
- ***Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury**
- ***The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald**
- *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck
- ***One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey**

You'll also read many shorter pieces (nonfiction, essays, editorials, short stories, and poems) that I will provide for you via supplemental texts.

## Writing for 113

- at least one major writing per nine weeks
- journals throughout each quarter
- short research assignments throughout the year
- All typed assignments will use Times New Roman font, size 12, 1"-1.25" margins.
- All writing, unless otherwise noted, will be submitted through turnitin.com (see turnitin.com submission instructions on our websites for guidelines)
- All writing assignments are due in class during the period you have English on the assigned day, regardless of absence from school.
- No writing assignments may be emailed to me for printing.
- All typed assignments will use proper MLA formatting

### **A Note on Plagiarism (as stated in the student handbook)**

**Plagiarism/Cheating/Appearance of Cheating is defined as taking, giving, or using ideas, writings or information from another source and offering them as your own. A student should act in such a way that a teacher would not suspect him or her of cheating.**

Cheating and plagiarism involve any one of the following actions:

- Using another person's work as your own.
- Copying, faxing, duplicating assignments that will be turned in as an "original."
- Exchanging assignments by print-out, disk transfer or modem, and then submitting as "original."
- Writing formulas, codes, key words, etc., on your person or objects for use in an assessment.
- Using unauthorized reference sheets during an assessment.
- Exchanging answers with others (either giving or receiving) unless directed by the teacher.
- Duplicating or reusing a past assignment that is turned in as an "original."
- Taking someone else's assignment and submitting it as your own.
- Communicating in any form during an assessment without the teacher's permission.
- Submitting material (written or designed by someone else) without giving credit to the author/artist name and/or source.
- Giving or receiving knowledge of an assessment prior to its administration.
- Failing to follow test procedures or instructions announced by a teacher (such as no talking, no turning around in a seat, raising hand to ask questions, no leaving seat, or any other instruction.)

### **If a student is caught cheating or plagiarizing or giving the appearance as such, the following will occur:**

- A. First offense: The teacher will notify the parent/guardian and the incident will be reported to the assistant principal. Upon administrative review the student may receive no credit or up to 70% of the score if the assignment is allowed to be reworked.
- B. Second offense: the student will receive a zero on the quiz, test, paper, or other assignment, the teacher will contact the parent/guardian, and the incident will be reported to the assistant principal and will be reviewed for further course of action, which may include failure for the grading period.
- C. Third offense: will result in parental contact and may include removal of the student from the class/course which will result in failure of the course for the year (if a year-long course) or semester (if a semester course).
- D. Any occurrences may affect your current standing or future selection into a club, organization or activity.

### **A Final Note on Integrity**

Please note that I spend a great deal of time creating lessons, writing assignments, and activities that seek to keep you engaged and interested. I expect that you approach your assignments similarly. In other words, when you're given a writing assignment – particularly at the accelerated level – your writing should reflect an accelerated effort. While I certainly understand that there are a variety of skill levels within each class, it is absolutely not too much for me to expect that you proofread carefully each paper before submitting, that you make sure there are no careless errors throughout, and that every assignment submitted represents the absolute best effort you're capable of giving. Please take the time to put thought and effort into your responses; if your name is attached to something, make it something worthy of your name.

### **Contact Information**

Mrs. Rankin

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330.837.3501 ext. 1158

[www.jackson.stark.k12.oh.us/webpages/drarkin](http://www.jackson.stark.k12.oh.us/webpages/drarkin)

### **Google Classroom Enrollment**

Google Class Code Period 1: 7w97nw0

Google Class Code Period 2: 63iehce

Google Class Code Period 4: 3nglc8

Google Class Code Period 6: 967r8i

### **Turnitin.com Enrollment**

Enrollment key: gobears

Class ID: 21825524