

English 10 Course Syllabus 2018-2019

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Office Hours (E101): M-F 7:30-8:30 a.m and 3:15-4:00 p.m.

Course Overview

Welcome to English 10! This course will reinforce the knowledge of basic elements of literature including the short story, novel, drama, poetry, and non-fiction. Types of works studied include: ancient and classical hero legend and epic, Greek drama, a Shakespeare play, modern novel, graphic novel, short story and poetry tied to course themes. Emphasis is on our literary and cultural heritage, focusing on universal themes in literature such as the hero's journey, rites of passage, loss of innocence, the basic nature of man, the nature of justice, dreams/goals, forgiveness, and the search for wisdom in a sometimes confusing world. Course will introduce the concepts of archetype and allusion. English 10 will reinforce the writing process through instruction in narrative and expository writing.

Major works may include *Gilgamesh*, the *Bible* as/in literature; Greek mythology, *The Bean Trees*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Julius Caesar*, *Antigone*, *Persepolis*, *A Yellow Raft in Blue Water* and a variety of short stories, poems, and supplemental texts.

Major Units and Themes

Essential questions guiding the major units and themes:

What experiences are universal and what aren't?

What responsibility do I have to other human beings?

What are the costs and benefits of losing innocence?

What does it mean to be heroic?

What responsibility do I have for addressing injustice?

What is injustice and how do we identify it?

How do people justify the use/misuse of power?

Learning Goals and Objectives

The English 10 course addresses the Anchor Standards from the Common Core State Standards in reading, writing, language and speaking/listening. Students completing English 10 will be able to:

Demonstrate an ability to understand the development of values in Western Culture, especially from Greco-Roman and Judeo-Christian sources.

Demonstrate an ability to use the study of literature to discuss ethical decision-making.

Demonstrate an ability to analyze a literary work and the ability to synthesize aspects of several works, making connections regarding theme, style, and/or structure.

Produce several pieces of writing (narrative, imaginative and expository).

Demonstrate proficiency in Standard English prose (punctuation, spelling, syntax, usage) and with organizational structures.

Demonstrate an ability to use a variety of writing styles to polish that style and strengthen voice.

Logically support an interpretation of literature with documented references from the literary work.

Demonstrate an ability to recognize fundamental symbols and archetypes in literature.

Demonstrate an ability to understand how allusions add and broaden meaning in text.

Demonstrate the power of language to persuade.

Grading policies/practices:

While grades are limited in their scope, my goal is to have your grade accurately reflect your effort and growth in the class. Daily work and quizzes are worth 5-10 points. Longer tests and writings are usually worth 25-50 points. Major projects, essays, and tests are usually worth 75-100 points. Grades are on the 10% scale (90-100% = A) **You have access to the gradebook. Be sure to check it.**

Late Work:

Daily work will be accepted late with a loss of 50%. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and submit the assignment the next day. The website calendar is updated weekly with assignments and class work. Projects and major writing assignments will be accepted late with a loss of 10% for the first 3 days and 50% thereafter. Tests or quizzes will need to be made up in the testing center at the first available opportunity.

Warm Ups and Silent Reading:

Each day at the beginning of class, you will have instructions for a warm up activity OR time to read. You will receive credit for this time, graded based on writing or reading for the entire time (usually 10 minutes). To maintain equity in our learning environment, this part of the class must be silent. You will lose your warm up point if you are chatting, on your phone, or doing work for another class. If you're absent, you can find the warm up questions on the website. You may make up silent reading time before or after school or at lunch.

Attendance and Behavior Expectations:

You are expected to be in class on time. Please respect our classroom community; we need and want you here on time! If you are tardy, please stop by the attendance office for a note before coming to class. If tardiness or absenteeism become an issue, we will follow the school's detention and parent notification policy.

Phones:

There will be sporadic times when you will be asked to use your phone for the class. Other than that, the policy is that phones are not part of this class. I will not check my phone during class, and I expect the same of you. You will be required to put your phone in a locked cabinet if it is out during class. After 3 offenses per quarter, the school electronics policy will be followed: "[phone] may be confiscated and may be returned only to a parent/guardian from a school administrator" (WLHS Student Handbook). Please avoid the hassle.

Website Access:

Supplies needed for this course:

1. A **notebook** for note-taking, journaling, and warm up activities.
2. The **text** we are currently reading (provided by me)
3. A personal **system for organizing** notes, handouts, passed back work, and documents related to the writing curriculum of the course – a folder, a small binder, or few sections of a binder work well.

All teachers will maintain a classroom website that provides course information. Online grades will be updated at least every two weeks. Classroom websites can be accessed on the West Linn High School website. In addition, we will be using Google Classroom as a home base for our class.

Plagiarism:

Failing to cite your sources in your writing or formation of ideas is intellectual theft. There is a zero tolerance policy for plagiarism in this class. If plagiarism occurs, you will receive no credit on the assignment and will have a conference with me. Please refer to the West Linn High School Honor Code.