

English 10 Syllabus 2017-2018



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| Instructor: | Mrs. Annie Watson | Contact: | awatson@fUSD1.org |
| Phone #: | 928-773-8100 | Office | Mon-Friday 7:30-8:00am |
| Room #: | 405 | Hours: | Other times by appointment |
| Writing Specialist (3 days per week, November-May): Mrs. Kathi Baron, Retired English Teacher, kbaron@fUSD1.org | | | |

Message to Students:

You will need to be prepared to read, write, and think every day. Be ready to work from “bell to bell” each period. Over the course of the year, we will read a selection of novels, short stories, non-fiction articles, poems, and plays. The bulk of the reading and writing will be done during class time, but you should expect to have some homework and to study at home for upcoming quizzes and tests. Each quarter, we will produce at least one major essay, which will require you to write multiple drafts and make meaningful revisions. You will have the opportunity (individually and in small groups) to work with Mrs. Baron, our writing specialist, to improve your writing skills by targeting individual patterns of errors and common misconceptions. We will also focus on expanding your vocabulary and improving your grammar skills. It is my goal to have you leave my class as a proficient reader who can handle difficult texts and as a proficient writer who can write for an array of audiences and purposes. Your success in my class is extremely important to me, and I hope that it is important to you too.

Course Description:

English 10 is designed to strengthen your reading and writing skills, while building on grammar, vocabulary, listening, speaking, and viewing skills.

Goals/Objectives:

- To increase students’ knowledge of the six traits of writing
- To increase students’ reading fluency and comprehension
- To practice each of the steps in the writing process
- To increase students’ vocabulary and ability to determine the meaning of difficult words
- To closely read and analyze complex texts
- To compose effective argument, expository, and narrative compositions
- To become adept at integrating quotations from outside sources into essays
- To develop and improve overall communication and literacy skills
- To cultivate the confidence necessary for success in and beyond high school

Possible Course Texts:

Night (Wiesel) - Required

Lord of the Flies (Golding) - Required

A Long Way Gone (Beah)

A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Shakespeare)

Beowulf (Anonymous)

Common Threads (Repetto/Aaron)

Julius Caesar (Shakespeare)

The Kite Runner (Hosseini)

The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde (Stevenson)

The Language of Literature (Textbook for English 10 by McDougal Littell)

In addition to selections from the above list, we will read short stories, poetry, and nonfiction texts, and we will occasionally utilize online programs and websites for further practice and test preparation. This will all be explained, in more detail, later in the course.

Grading System: A Blend of Traditional and Standards-Based Assessment

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| Measurement/Assessment (e.g. reading tests, vocab/grammar tests, projects, essays) | 80% |
| Practice (e.g. bell work, class work, homework, participation grades) | 20% |

The categories and percentages above have changed since last year. The new breakdown reflects a district-wide decision; as a staff, we hope to create more consistency in terms of the categorization and weight of assignments. Like before, the total of the above categories will count for 85% of the total grade. The final exam will count for the remaining 15%.

The grading scale is standard:

- A = 90-100%
- B = 80-89%
- C = 70-79%
- D = 60-69%
- F = 59% or below

Note: Students who are actively involved in their own learning and are willing to sacrifice some personal time after school will be allowed to conference with the teacher and redo some assignments and assessments in order to master the material and improve their grades. I am typically available to work with students from 2:30-3:30 Monday through Thursday and at other times by appointment.

Behavior – I make every effort to handle disciplinary issues within the classroom, giving the student a clear opportunity to correct his or her behavior. Situations that cannot be handled in class will be addressed in the RTC or by the administration per school policy. Parent conferences will be scheduled when support is needed.

Academic Progress – Any grade less than a C in this course is unacceptable and will result in interventions. A student with a low grade should expect to re-take qualifying quizzes, spend time after school getting help, and participate in re-teaching groups during class time. If necessary, the teacher will schedule a “a student study team” including parents, counselors and administrators. Progress reports are sent home by mail every three weeks per school policy. Parents are also able to monitor student’s grade online (24/7) by acquiring a username for ParentVue.

Homework/Make-up Work – Please be proactive in speaking with me about upcoming absences and/or check in with me upon your return to school about missed assignments, assessments, etc. I also do my best to reply within the school day when a student sends an email requesting work for that day.

Classroom Rules:

1. Be respectful and BE KIND.
2. Be prepared and on time for class.
3. Do your own work! Practice integrity at all times.
4. Sit in your assigned seat and keep bags/backpacks/purses on the floor.
5. Drinks with lids and small snacks are permitted.
6. Phones must be silenced and put away.
7. All other school policies must be followed.

Policy on Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the use of the words, facts, ideas, or opinions of someone else without specific acknowledgement of their source. It is the attempt, deliberate or unintentional, to pass off as one's own what in fact has been borrowed. To fail to indicate sources of information and/or to fail to identify them constitutes plagiarism. Any work which has been plagiarized will receive a 0 and the student will forfeit the right to re-do the assignment for credit. Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated.

General Statement of Academic Integrity: Integrity of scholarship is essential for an academic community. Flagstaff High School expects that students will honor this principle and in so doing protect the validity of Flagstaff High School's intellectual work. For students, this means that all academic work will be done by the individual to whom it is assigned, without unauthorized aid of any kind.

Parents, please provide an e-mail address and a daytime telephone number that I can use to contact you regarding your student's progress and/or behavior. Please sign below and send this form back with your student, indicating that you have read the syllabus. Thank you.

Print Student Name

Student Signature

Date

Print Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Phone Number

Parent/Guardian E-mail Address (Please include!)

Please flip this paper over to sign Movie Permission Slip →