Academic Honors English 10 Syllabus and Guidelines

Instructor Information: David Potter

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Conference Time: 4th block 11:30-12:30

***Course Overview***

Students in 10th grade Honors English will continue their preparation for college-level skills in the areas of writing, reading, listening, and speaking as outlined in the Tennessee State Standards for English. Students will engage with literature from a variety of sources. Students will develop and share their own view points of the world. Students will be expected to produce high quality work which meets or exceeds the state standards.

***We will focus on a variety of skills throughout the year.***

* Writing – Students will practice and implement their writing skills. During the semester, students will produce a personal narrative, a variety of poems, a literary analysis, an argumentative essay, and a research paper. Shorter essays will be produced as we compare and contrast a variety of articles.
* Literature – The literature we will read will align with our writing. We have 2 major pieces to read: *To Kill A Mockingbird,* and *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*. To supplement these pieces, we will be reading multiple nonfiction pieces, along with short stories and poetry.
* Independent Reading – Each quarter students will choose a book that will be challenging to them to read on their own time. An independent project will be assigned for evaluation.
* Grammar – Grammar exercises will be a regular part of the class. This will include in class practice as well as formative and summative evaluations.
* Literary Terms – Literary terms will be reviewed and tested in order to keep the key terms fresh in the student’s memory throughout the semester.

***Materials needed for class***

* An organized folder with loose-leaf paper
* Textbook- provide by HCDE – the textbook will remain in class
* Any homework assignment or novel being studied
* Pencil and ink pen (blue or black ink)

***Classroom Expectations***

* Be respectful and honest.
* Prepare beforehand.
* Refrain from behavior that disturbs you or other from learning. Follow all school rules.
* Honor commitments. – be punctual, meet deadlines
* Demonstrate integrity in your work.
* Do not eat in the classroom. Drinks will be allowed, however, the drink must have a cap that can be secured tightly.
* Phones and electronics may be utilized only at the teacher discretion. When someone is addressing the class, there should be no earbuds (headphones) covering any part of the head.

***Detentions:***

Detentions will be assigned to be served after school and in my classroom (Room 204). Detentions for tardies (3 tardies) will be in the media center and held by administration.

***Grading Policy:*** Quarter 1 – 50% Daily

50% Tests

Quarter 2 – 50% Daily

50 % Tests

Semester 1: Quarter 1 – 42.5 %

Quarter 2 – 42.5 %

EOC Exam – 15%

***Absences and Missed Work***

It is the student’s responsibility to inquire about missed assignments and notes. I will try to have assignments listed on google classroom. Email me as soon as you can or write your name on a piece of paper along with the date of absence. I will respond as soon as possible.

***I look forward to celebrating your success. Please let me know if I can be of any help to you. My planning period of fourth block, and I will be after school on most days (other than Wednesday) to help as well.***

***Sincerely,***

***David Potter***

***Everyone has a story to tell…***

***Unit 1: Our stories shape our character and personality.***

Literature – Short stories, poetry, excerpts from life experiences

Independent Reading – Book Review (biography or autobiography)

Writing Pieces – biographical narrative, poetry

Grammar – Parts of speech overview, confusing words

Literary Terms

***Unit 2 – We are shaped by history.***

Literature – ***The Tragedy of Julius Caesar***

Independent Reading – Impactful speeches

Writing Pieces – Argumentative Essay

Grammar – Commas, subject-verb agreement, punctuation (semicolon)

Literary Terms

***Unit 3 –We are all more alike than we are different.***

Literature – ***To Kill A Mockingbird***

Independent Reading – articles related to civil rights

Writing Pieces – Literary Analysis

Grammar- Parallel structure, modifiers, capitalization

Literary Terms – Plot Development/ character

***Unit 4 – Our questions are important. (The importance of asking the “right” questions).***

Literature – Research example from the textbook

Independent Reading – choose one piece of research from a field of interest

Writing Pieces – Research paper (directed by a personal question of interest)

Grammar – spelling and correcting common errors