

English 10H
Mr. Blocker
2018-2019

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Mission Statement: Hall High School prepares all students to be educated, responsible citizens who contribute collaboratively, independently, and innovatively to a dynamic global community.

Course Overview:

Students entering grade 10 are prepared for deeper considerations of written expression, ready to tackle social issues through a variety of lenses, and how they impact character and author identity, reflect social structures, and produce reactions that define the writing process. Students will analyze, critique, and compose written expression as a vehicle for identity formation, challenging norms, impacting change, and possibly transforming the world in which we live. The English 10 Honors curriculum focuses on characters, authors, and students responses to social constructs. Also explored is how their identities are established in writing, their purposes and arguments received through writing, and the meaning of their experiences transcribed through text. Equal consideration is given to the real or imagined societies in which individuals exist and how these worlds define, create, and demand space for reaction and response. **Dominant lenses such as race, class, gender, family, religion, profession, location, and age will be traced throughout entire texts.** English 10 Honors requires students to consider themselves as individuals within larger societies whose own abilities to think critically and impact change are reflected within textual examples included in our studies.

The English 10 Honors classroom is a **language-driven, discussion-centered** environment. To these ends, students are expected to demonstrate increasing command of English language conventions, including grammar and vocabulary. Students are required to come to class prepared to discuss assigned text, respond to divergent peer perspectives, ask questions of others, and work collaboratively towards deeper understandings of learned material. Speaking, listening, and language enrichment remain continued focal points in the English 10 Honors curriculum.

*Class Readings:

Drama: *Macbeth*- William Shakespeare, *The Crucible*- Arthur Miller, *Fences*-August Wilson

Novels:

Adventures of Huckleberry Finn-Mark Twain,

The Great Gatsby- F. Scott Fitzgerald

Montana 1948- Larry Watson

Fences- August Wilson

Selected Short stories

Selected Poetry: selected poems

Non-fiction:

Nickel and Dime- Barbara Ehrenreich

Selected articles; students selected non-fiction articles

Independent Reading Selections (various)

*Class readings will be selected from the list above, including additional selected poems, short stories, and excerpts (fictional and non-fictional).

Mr. Blocker: Policies and Expectations

Grading: Your final quarterly grade will be an evaluation of total performance and improvement (i.e. total pts.): homework, classwork, tests, projects, writing, mid-term and final exams, class participation:

Homework/Classwork/
Quizzes/Tests/Projects/Writing: 90%
Class participation: 10%

Mid-term/ Final Exams: The mid-term and final exams are worth 20% of your semester grade.

Class participation: For an outstanding class participation grade, students are expected to do the following: come to class on time; come to class prepared (notebook, pen/pencil, text(s), homework); listen actively; engage in on-task behavior; contribute appropriately to class discussions and lessons; behave respectfully (*see separate handout for details*). I also reward evidence that you are applying classroom knowledge to the outside world.

Late Work:

Homework: If you do not hand in a homework assignment on-time it receives a zero. Late homework assignments cannot be made-up.

Major assignments: Projects and essays can be handed in late; the penalty is –10% per day late. After ten days late, the assignment is a zero. Please see me as soon as possible if you are having difficulty with an assignment; honesty is rewarded. After an assignment is five days late, the highest a late assignment can earn is a 50.

Extra Credit: There is no extra credit in this class. All of your assignments are important. Please see me as soon as possible if you are struggling.

Absences/Make-up work: If you are absent, expect to hand in the work the day you return if you knew about the assignment prior to your absence. Otherwise, you will be given one additional day per absence to make it up. However, it is your responsibility to hand in the missing work. **On the day you return**, you must schedule a time to take any missed quizzes or tests or submit the assignment. Failing to do this will result in a zero for the assignment. Please do not wait for me to remind you to hand something in. If you know of an extended absence ahead of time, please let me know. **Long term assignments should still be emailed/shared with me before or during the due date time (by the end of the normal class time) even if you are absent. Late penalties will apply if this is abused.**

Excused/ Unexcused Absences: If you are in school the day a major assignment is due but will be absent during our class period, you should hand in your essay to me or put it in my mailbox before class. If you cut class on the day an assignment is due or a test or quiz is given, the assignment will earn an F. Also, please bring in printed hard copies of essays on the day they are due (unless otherwise instructed). If you email me an assignment or share an assignment, make sure you do it properly. Late penalties apply if I cannot view or do not receive the document.

Mulligans:

I do give you one mulligan per quarter, however (*see separate handout for details*).

Writing folder: Please keep your class writing in a classroom folder. I will often ask you to reflect, revise, and use these assignments for future writing exercises. This folder should stay in the classroom.

Paper Re-Writes: Graded papers receiving a C- or lower may be re-written. Revision is an essential component to becoming a better writer. Students must schedule a conference with me, re-write the paper within one week, and thoughtfully complete a re-write reflection sheet. The new grade will be an average between the original paper and the revised paper. However, the highest grade a re-written essay can receive is a C. In-class essays, quizzes, and tests cannot be re-written/ re-taken.

Homework: There will be homework of some kind every day—reading, writing, or thinking. Please write down assignments in your agendas. I will write the assignment on the board, give you a handout, or tell you verbally.

Extra Help: I keep a sign-up sheet for extra-help in my attendance book. I strongly encourage you to sign-up for a time to discuss class assignments and readings. I also encourage you to meet with me to discuss your own writing, questions about future classes/plans, and hobbies. Many students successfully publish their work in this class, and I hope you will try to do the same!

Independent Reading: You will be asked, on average, one or two independent books per quarter. See additional handouts/assignments.