

English 10 Syllabus 2021-2022

Mrs. Hunt-Ward
Room 217
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Welcome to English 10!

In this course, students will read both independent books of their choice and core texts aligned with tenth grade. We will also explore a variety of writing styles with ample opportunities for revision. As we grow as writers, we will work to improve our grammar skills and our vocabulary. Students will learn to use and properly cite a variety of relevant sources to support an argument and compose a research paper. Students will become proficient in using MLA format and become familiar with the methods used to evaluate the legitimacy and purpose of source materials rather than merely being able to cite them. Students will read, evaluate, analyze, and synthesize fiction and nonfiction readings representing a wide variety of prose styles including poetry, essays, short stories, and critical/opinion/editorial texts. I look forward to a wonderful year of reading and writing with you!

This year, GCS continues its partnership with Pearson. Our core texts will come from Pearson's: My Perspectives. We will be focusing on manageable passages that will help us strengthen important reading strategies. This partnership also provides online access to materials, as well as a consumable copy of materials!

Course Overview and Objectives:

This class is designed around the Common Core Standards and focuses on reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language to help students improve their literacy skills. We will focus on reading literary texts the first semester and informative texts and seminal documents the second semester.

Classroom Expectations

1. *Preparation:* Come to class prepared, whether that means having done the reading or having completed your assignments for the previous class. The quality of our class depends in part on your preparation for it.
2. *Participation:* Be here. Not just physically, but intellectually and socially. When you do not participate, you shortchange not only yourself but the rest of our community.
3. *Respect:* For each other, for me, for yourself and your own abilities, for this space.
4. *Cooperation:* All school and district rules apply, and your cooperation with these rules, including the tardy policy and the cell phone policy, are crucial to your success in this class.
5. *Courage:* Be brave. Take academic risks. Push yourself as a writer, reader, and thinker. Speak up. Maggie Kuhn said, "Speak your mind—even if your voice shakes."

Grades, Tutoring Hours, and Other Policies

Guilford County School Grading Scale:

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

Weight of Assessments per Quarter

Tests/Projects: 30%
Quizzes: 30%
Classwork: 30%

English Test Days:

Friday

Plagiarism Policy:

Plagiarism will not be tolerated, in accordance with Guilford County Schools' policy.

Cheating:

Cheating is a serious offense that will carry heavy consequences. Any student **giving or receiving** answers on classwork, homework, projects, tests, essays, or quizzes will receive a zero for that assignment, and I will contact the parent. Assignments that are copied from an Internet or print source will result in similar consequences.

Tutoring Hours:

My tutoring hours are, by appointment only, on Tuesdays, at 8:15am. Please do not hesitate to sign up for an appointment! The appointment link is on my Canvas homepage. Sign up for tutoring by noon the Friday before the next session. This gives me time to prepare for our session. Students that sign up after noon Friday can attend the next tutoring session.

I am here to help you as much as to challenge you. Be sure to also take advantage of peer tutoring offered Monday through Thursday afterschool.

Grading Policy: Grades are reflective of skill mastery. A student's grade in this class will only reflect behavior, participation, and work ethic if it interferes with their ability to learn skills. It is important to remember that a grade can only measure so much. Every student has different strengths and weaknesses in the classroom. Grades are simply a tool for the teacher to determine who has mastered a skill and who needs extra assistance.

Tardy Policy:

Students must be in the classroom and **ready to write** by the bell. The Grimsley High School tardy policy will be followed. Students coming to class **more than five minutes late** without a pass will be referred to administration for *skipping*. Every fourth tardy requires Administrative Referral. Students tardy 10 minutes after the late bell will be sent to the SI trailer.

Absences:

If you are absent, it is **your** responsibility to see me about make up work. Students will have 3 days to make up any assignments. Students should submit missed assignments as soon as possible after an absence.

Late work:

If a student does not complete an assignment, they have 5 school days to turn the assignment in without penalty. After 5 days, students have until the 10th school day, after the assignment was given, to turn it in for no more than 60% credit. By the eleventh school day, the grade will remain a zero in the gradebook.

Electronic Device/ Cell Phone Policy:

Cell phones and other electronic devices **are not to be seen or heard throughout class** unless permission is given for a specific class activity. If they are seen or heard, I will follow GHS policy and will send the student to in-school suspension.

Classroom communications:

- Please add huntwaj@gcsnc.com to your contacts.
- You can also reach me by sending a message through Canvas Inbox (Canvas Inbox is on the left-hand side of the Canvas page).

Being a Self-Advocate: It is imperative that high school students learn how to advocate for themselves in order to be successful in future endeavors. While parents are always welcome to email with any major concerns, it is the student's responsibility to schedule tutoring, ask that needs are met, discuss any concerns, etc. It is important that students that are struggling ask for help early to avoid falling behind. This can be done in person or via email.

What students need to bring each day to class:

Pencil or blue/black pen

1 section of a notebook dedicated to English (the type of notebook is up to you)

An independent reading book

Your charged GCS Chromebook

**Working together and striving for excellence in all we do, will make this a most successful year!*