English 10 Honors Syllabus

North Dorchester High School Room A100

Mr. Adam Wilson, Instructor Planning Period: 4

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Course Description

The English 10 Honors course is designed to further develop reading, writing, speaking, listening, grammar usage, and mechanics skills within the context of rigorous literary and information texts. It addresses the Maryland College and Career Readiness Standards for English and is designed to expose students to a broader depth and increased rigor than the regular course. Students will employ critical thinking and analysis skills, supporting an accelerated pace of content. Passing the MCAP 10 end-of-course assessment for this class is a graduation requirement.

Course Requirements

This course will be heavily based on comprehending and responding to literary elements and a survey of literature from a variety of locations and time periods. You will be required to respond both verbally and in writing in individual and group settings. It is imperative that you take the time to closely read all assigned materials. By completing the reading, you will be able to fully participate in both synchronous and asynchronous activities and should have no trouble gaining valuable information from the material. All students will be given access to textbook readings and other materials needed to be successful in class. Parents and students should expect daily homework assignments that include reading and/or writing.

Units of Study

- Unit 1: Society and Self- Discovery
 - o Novel Study: Fahrenheit 451
 - o Short fiction, poetry, and informational texts
 - o Research- based argument
- Unit 2: The Limits of Power:
 - o Drama Study: The Tragedy of Julius Caesar
 - Novel Study
 - o Short fiction, poetry, and informational texts
- Unit 3: Confronting Oppression
 - o Novel Study: Night
 - o Short fiction, poetry, and informational texts

• MCAP preparation and completion

Required Materials

- Holt McDougal Literature (ISBN 978-0-547-61840-1)
- Pencils **OR** pens (blue or black ink only)
- Loose leaf paper or a notebook with detachable paper
- A storage system (folder or binder) for notes and returned work

Virtual Learning

- Classes will be held virtually until further notice using the Schoology and Google Meets platforms. Daily learning will occur in two ways:
 - o **Synchronous**: "face to face" with instructor completing lecture, discussion, and other forms of direct teaching (half or each class period)
 - Asynchronous: after synchronous learning, students will be given an assignment to complete on their own based on the direct instruction from the first half of class. Mr. Wilson will be available during this time to answer questions and offer assistance. (second half of each class period)

Grading Policy

All assignments will be graded using a point system. Progress reports will be sent home on a regular basis. Assignments are broken down into the following categories and weighted in the following manner:

• Formative Assessments (class work, homework, etc.) 40% of your final grade

• Summative Assessments (tests, quizzes, projects, etc.) 60% of your final grade

Assessment Schedule

While the nature of our virtual learning this semester makes it difficult to give exact dates of assessments, all students can expect to complete a county-wide benchmark at the end of each unit. Approximate dates for these assessments are:

• Unit 1: week of October 19th

• Unit 2: week of November 30th

• Unit 3: week of January 11th

Guidelines for Success

- As you enter the virtual classroom, make sure that you have all materials necessary for that class period. Find your warm-up in Schoology and complete it within the first 5 minutes of synchronous learning.
- Organize and plan your time carefully to meet all deadlines.
- Attend class every day, and do not be late.
- Raise your hand in Google Meet to be recognized and called upon by the teacher. There is to be no talking over Mr. Wilson or other students.
- Be prepared for class everyday with all required materials.
- You will not be required to have your web camera turned on during synchronous learning. However, all students are expected to be present and attentive during synchronous learning and should expect Mr. Wilson to randomly call on students during this time. Failure to remain present and attentive during synchronous learning can negatively impact attendance for that class period.
- Be silent and attentive when Mr. Wilson or a peer is talking.
- Work hard on your daily assignments and meet all deadlines. Work will not be accepted if you decide to not do your work in class. "I'll just do it later" is not a valid excuse.
- Please avoid using distractors during synchronous and asynchronous learning, including food, drink, cell phones, and other electronics. Nothing should interfere with your learning potential!
- If a student misses a class period, they should take the initiative to look at any assignments on Schoology from their missed class period and complete the missing assignments
- Try your best!