



10th Grade English Syllabus

Teachers' Contact Information

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Course Overview

This is a literature course that will look at novels, poems, plays, and nonfiction texts dealing with the themes of rebellion and reconciliation. First semester we will consider how people's identities are shaped by their contexts. We will look at how identity influences a person's perspective of others. In the second semester, we will examine how individuals use their communal ties to make choices in difficult times. We will focus on strengthening creative and formal writing skills and enhancing our reading skills by using close reading strategies. Throughout, we will engage in rigorous reading, writing, thinking, and discussion. And in June we will be taking the ELA Common Core Regents.

Required Class Materials (*You are expected to purchase and bring these materials to class no later than Monday, September 18th.*)

- Two folders (one for class, one that you will use to take work home)
- Loose leaf paper or a notebook
- Black or blue pens or pencils; highlighter optional

Classroom Expectations

Students are expected to be positive members of the learning community. This means coming prepared to be fully engaged on a daily basis and following the community values. This implies that students will be in full uniform before entering.



Expectations	Consequences
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Arrive promptly and prepared for class2. Do not talk when someone else is talking3. Stay awake and engaged	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Verbal Warning / Move Seat<ul style="list-style-type: none">- This could be public or private2. One-on-One Conference<ul style="list-style-type: none">- This could be during class or student lunch

<p>4. Raise your hand to participate</p> <p>5. Do not insult your peers (be supportive!)</p>	<p>3. Call home and/or sent to Courtney/Admin office</p>
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Attendance in class is mandatory. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to complete the work you missed. The work will be available in the classroom or on Google Classroom or PupilPath. If you need extra support, there will be office hours for you to check-in with the teacher.

If you are **late to class** because you were with an adult, ensure the adult writes you a pass. If you are late for no good reason, please come in. Don't waste more learning time trying to find a pass. Multiple latenesses will result in a call home.

Cellphone / Headphones Policy

Cell phones and headphones are allowed in the school building but must be locked in your lockers. If you have your cell phone or headphones out during class, **they will be taken EVERY TIME.** Sometimes you'll be allowed to listen to music when you work, but you will be given permission to do so. There will NEVER be a warning or a comment like, "Put your cell phone away." **The teacher will ask for your phone or headphones and what will happen depends on how you respond.**

The teacher will either keep it until:

- a. the end of the class period then give it back to you before you leave
- b. the end of the day then give it back to you when you come get it after 8th period
- c. turn it into the admin office/dean office

FHS Grading Policy

The school-wide breakdown and minimum number of graded assignments to be entered into PupilPath by the end of each semester are the following:

- **Learning Activities:** Classwork, Participation, Homework (C Layers)
3-5 activities each week = roughly 60 to 80 per semester
- **Formative Assessments:** Quizzes, Short Writing (B Layers)
2-4 rubric guided assignments per unit = roughly 8 per semester
- ***Summative Assessments:** Exams, Extended Writing, Projects (A Layers)
1-2 per unit = roughly 6 per semester

Bathroom/Water Fountain Policy

No students can use the bathroom/get a drink of water during the first 10 minutes of class or last 10 minutes of class. Only one person is allowed to be out of the classroom at a time. You must ask the teacher for permission without interrupting the class and take the pass.

Homework Policy

Students will be assigned homework assignments. These assignments will always be checked and are used to prepare you for a future class. If you have questions about an assignment you have options! Ask a classmate, stay for tutoring, and/or email the teacher.

If an assignment requires a computer and you do not have access to one, the New York Public Library has computers free to use: 742 10th Avenue, between 50th and 51st streets.

Missed/Late Work Policy

If student's work is submitted after the deadline, it will be accepted but will not be able to earn a grade higher than 85% for the assignment. If a student misses a deadline due to a medical emergency, they must submit a doctor's note in order to waive the late penalty.

Plagiarism (Copying) and Cheating

- Copying and pasting someone else's words from the Internet to your assignment or paper is plagiarism if you do not cite the author and where you got the information from.
- Copying someone's ideas by putting the ideas in your own words is also plagiarism if you do not cite the author and where you got the information from.
- Copying another student's work is plagiarism.
- Cheating on an assignment, quiz, test, etc. is, well, cheating.

All of these acts are **forbidden**. Students will be required to meet with the teacher and admin team (Dana, Calee, and/or Kristina), and will take a zero for the assignment. Your parent and guardian

will be notified as well. Students will have the opportunity to redeem themselves by completing an alternate assignment option to be chosen by the teacher.

Unit 1: *How It Went Down*

Essential Question: How does a person's identity influence their perspective?

Text(s): *How It Went Down* by Kekla Magoon

Formative Assessments:

- On-demand argument
- Socratic Seminar

Summative Assessment:

- Online Discussion

Common Core Standards:

Reading (RL.9-10): 1, 2, 4

Writing (W.9-10): 1

Speaking and Listening (SL.9-10): 1



Unit 2: Book Clubs

Essential Question: How do we determine our obligation to others?

Text(s): *The First Part Last* by Angela Johnson, *Sold* by Patricia McCormick, *No Disrespect* by Sister Souljah, *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi

Formative Assessments:

- Weekly Reading Comprehension Quizzes
- Discussion Protocol
- A Layer Essay Draft

Summative Assessments:

- Essay on Conflict in text

Common Core Standards:

Reading (RL.9-10): 1, 2, 4

Writing (W.9-10): 5

Speaking and Listening (SL.9-10): 1



Unit 3: *Macbeth*

Essential Question: How can the choices made by an individual transform their identity?

Text(s): *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare

Formative Assessments:

- Reading Comprehension Quizzes
- Literary Analysis essay
- Discussion Protocol

Summative Assessment:

- Argument Essay
- *Macbeth* Mock Trial

Common Core Standards:

Reading (RL.9-10): 1, 4, 7

Writing (W.9-10): 2, 3, 4, 5

Speaking and Listening (SL.9-10): 6

Language (L.9-10): 5

Unit 4: Portfolio

Essential Question: What skills and ideas have I developed this semester?

Formative Assessments:

- Cover Letter Outline
- Cover Letter Draft

Summative Assessment:

- Semester 1 English Portfolio

Common Core Standards:

Writing (W.9-10): 4, 5, 6

Speaking and Listening (SL.9-10): 1, 2, 4, 6



Unit 5: Poetry

Essential Question: TBD

Text(s): “I am Offering this Poem” by Jimmy Santiago Baca, “Caged Bird” by Maya Angelou, “To This Day” by Shane Koyczan

Formative Assessments:

- Poem Analysis
- A Layer Poem Draft

Summative Assessment:

- A Layer Poem
- Poetry Slam

Common Core Standards:

Reading (RL.9-10): 1, 2, 4

Writing (W.9-10): 4

Speaking and Listening (SL.9-10): 6



