

## Course Outline: HS English 10 (2014-2015)

**Description:** English 10 is a course designed to begin the preparation for a career/college. Students read novels, dramas, short stories, poetry, and nonfiction works and learn to analyze and compare writings in terms of theme, historical influence, and literary devices employed. They expand their vocabulary through the study of word roots, develop listening and speaking skills, and learn to write effectively and coherently. They produce a variety of writings including book reviews and journals, speeches, creative pieces, and autobiographical, expository, analytic, reflective, argumentative, cause and effect, compare and contrast, and research based essays.

**Overview:** There are three basic components to this course: Literature and nonfiction reading and analysis, a variety of writing assignments, and vocabulary development.

*This is a one-year, 10 credit course*

**Vocabulary:** The vocabulary requirement will be met through the completion of assignments and assessments drawn from course readings and topics of study.

### Literature Reading and Analysis –

**1) Anthology assignments** – Every learning period, you will be assigned approximately 4-5 (7 for College prep students) literature pieces from the *Reader's Choice* text. I will distribute copies of the individual readings, since you will not have a physical copy of the textbook. After reading, please complete any attached assignments and prepare to discuss the readings in class. *For full homework credit, please answer thoroughly and in complete sentences.*

**2) Informational Text Analysis-** You will read and analyze complex non fictional text, both in class and as individual assignments.

**3) Novel Reading** – Each semester, you will be reading one teacher-selected novel in its entirety. Novel Reading guidelines are as follows:

The student will complete both in-class and at home readings and assignments from *Things Fall Apart*, by Chinua Achebe, in the fall semester and a science fiction novel still to be determined in the spring.

Additionally, students will self-select a novel for additional reading throughout the semester. I have provided a list of suggested books, but students may choose any book they like as long as it is at grade-level or above. I chose shorter in-class novels to make time for independent reading. Independent reading will be assessed near the end of the semester.

*For full credit, please read both novels per semester and complete all assignments according to teacher direction. Complete sentences and neatness are important.*

**Writing Assignments –**

Every learning period, you will be assigned writing projects and essays that are varied in format. These need to be typed and should reflect your very best efforts. Rubrics will be provided so that you will know how your writing assignments will be evaluated. Where possible, model samples will also be provided. We will focus on the following:

Genre-based writing (Narrative, Descriptive, Argumentative, Compare/Contrast, Poetry, Response to Literature, Summary and Research).

Literary writing activities based on novel reading.

**Final Exams –**

In order to receive credit in English 10, students are required to complete a final exam and a final essay each semester.

**Approximate Weighting of Assignments & Assessments**

Reading and Responses to Lit and Non-fiction 30%

Writing Assignments 25%

Vocabulary Assignments 10%

Participation 15%

Semester Final 20%

**Materials Needed for Class:**

1 ½ inch binder

Notebook paper

Pencil

Highlighter

Notebook dividers

Assigned readings

Self-selected Literature novel

**Late Work**

For full credit, turn in all work on time. For the next week after the due date, I will give 75% credit; and any day after that, late work will be worth 50% of the initial total. If you have a legitimate circumstance that causes you to be unable to turn in an assignment on time, let me know *in advance* and we will work something out.