

## **Classes » 10th grade English**

### **SYLLABUS: English 10**

English 10: **Exploring Power**

Instructor: **Jennie Clopton**

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Office Hours: **By Appointment**

Phone:

Fall 2011/Spring 2012

Room : R2

Graduation Requirement: **10 English Credits**

*“Respect your efforts, respect yourself. Self-respect leads to self-discipline. When you have both...that is real power”*

- Clint Eastwood

*“Absolute power corrupts absolutely”*

- Lord Acton

#### **Introduction:**

Welcome to English 10! This is a pivotal year in regards to your high school graduation and your entrance into college. I hope this year will offer many challenges and experiences that will help you expand your abilities as a student and expand your view of the world around you. In order to assist you in achieving your academic goals, I will be here to support you and answer any questions you might have regarding the curriculum presented. Please feel free to approach me with any concerns both during and outside of class.

In order to provide a supportive environment for all students, I expect that every student arrives prepared to participate and willing to be open and receptive to all views expressed in class. You are part of a group that shares similar goals for the future and each student must remain dedicated to those goals and respectful of each other in order to create a positive learning environment.

#### **Course:**

The theme of tenth grade English is “Exploring Power.”

As a class we will read *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *In the Time of the Butterflies*, *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*, and *Animal Farm*. We will also participate in the National Poetry Out Loud program. You will have many additional opportunities throughout the year to read and respond to a variety of literature of your own choosing and I encourage you to bring in any material related to our theme that might be shared with the class for discussion. All students will complete a research project in the spring semester, as well as many smaller projects completed in and out of class. California standards for English Language Arts are the backbone of the course so expect to read, write, question, analyze and perform daily!

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As with reading, writing is a critical component of English 10, and you can expect to write a draft a week for the entire year, especially from August until February, as we prepare for the California High School Exit Exam. Daily grammar exercises come directly from released CAHSEE, STAR and SAT questions.

**Description:**

This one-year English course continues the critical analysis of literature by combining reading, writing, speaking and listening as well as oral and written English language conventions introduced in English 9. This course further prepares students for higher level English courses and testing. This course emphasizes critical thinking skills and development of ideas in class discussion, writing and formal speaking opportunities. Students will advance their use of the Writing Process through a variety of writing modes, with both assisted and unassisted writing assignments; autobiographical narrative, descriptive, persuasive and expository essays will be taught. Students will read texts from various genres including poetry, novels, non-fiction, drama, and functional documents. Students will use skills necessary for competent reading and writing by focusing on language mechanics, vocabulary development, and specific reading and writing assignments.

Course objectives: Students who completes this course should be able to:

- \* Read and understand various genres of writing and various styles of text
- \* Construct well-reasoned and mechanically sound essays, using advanced vocabulary
- \* Speak clearly and confidently in front of various audiences for a variety of purposes
- \* Have an appreciation of Shakespearian language
- \* Work cooperatively and collaboratively within a group
- \* Understand various rules of grammar, conventions, mechanics, formatting, and style
- \* Take and use complete and concise Cornell Notes
- \* Construct an effective research paper, utilizing basic MLA research paper format, including internal citation, a Works Cited page

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**Required:**

All students are expected to be prepared for class at all times. Please bring necessary materials daily and arrive curious and willing to participate. All students are required to be respectful of their classmates, their teacher and their environment. Disrespectful behavior towards you or from you will not be tolerated.

**Daily Materials:**

- \* 3" binder with SIX tabbed sections for English (Vocabulary, Notes, Handouts,

**Projects/Tests, Work in Progress, Returned Work)**

- \* **Extra binder paper**
- \* **At least two black or blue working pens and at least one pencil**
- \* **Textbook, assigned novel, and/or outside reading book**

Format: All papers turned in must be:

- \* Stapled
- \* double-spaced
- \* typed in black 12-point Times New Roman font
- \* written in standard, academic English with no abbreviations or slang

They must have:

- \* 1" margins
- \* Page numbers on each page after the first
- \* MLA heading (name, assignment, instructor name, date) single spaced on top  
left corner
- \* **A title centered two spaces below heading, appropriately capitalized in 12-point Times New Roman Font**

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### **Expectations:**

- **TWO BATHROOM PASSES PER SEMESTER** are granted to each student. Please use breaks.
- **TURN IN NEAT WORK.** Papers are to be clean, **EVERYTHING** you turn in **MUST** have a title on the title line, and your **COMPLETE MLA HEADING** in the upper left corner in order to receive full credit. .
- **KEEP EVERYTHING.** Sometimes you'll need to show proof that you did an assignment, and you also never know what you'll want for your end-of-year portfolio.
- **NO FOOD, DRINKS, OR GUM** are allowed in this class, except for water in plastic bottles. Also, **NO CELL PHONES, IPODS, HEAD PHONES, HOODS OR HATS.** If I have to say something to you about any of these things, expect to receive a behavior check.
- **HOMEWORK IS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PERIOD.** You will lose points and

receive a behavior check whenever you do not have your completed homework ready to go. Consistent behavior checks lead to detentions.

- **BE PROACTIVE. BE RESPONSIBLE.** Your job is to be honest and meet the challenges of this course in a straightforward way. Please address your problems in a responsible manner by coming to me as soon as the need arises. E-mail and office hours are great ways to communicate with me regarding homework questions.

- **LANGUAGE** is powerful in determining how others see you. As this is a formal English class, it is essential that we practice formal, academic English. This includes in-class discussions, as well as **ALL** written work that is turned in for a grade. Abbreviations, "texting" language and slang terminology are to be avoided in all assignments. Furthermore, all classwork and homework is to be completed in **BLUE** or **BLACK** ink. Colored ink (red, purple, green, etc.) and/or pencil are **NOT** accepted.

- **LATE WORK IS NOT ALLOWED.** All assignments must be turned in on time. If you know in advance you will be absent on a particular day, it is your responsibility to find out ahead of time what you will be missing. If you know you are going to be absent the day an assignment is due, you must inform me beforehand via e-mail, otherwise, the work will be considered late. Any assignment turned in late will receive half credit. Major projects, assignments, and essays listed on the course outline will **NOT** be accepted past the assigned due date. **WORK IS STILL CONSIDERED LATE EVEN IF**

- Your printer failed, ran out of ink or exploded
- Your dog, cat or goldfish ate it, peed on it or buried it.
- It was the season finale of *American Idol*, *Glee* or *Survivor* and you just **HAD** to see who won, fell in love or survived.

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- **PLAGERISM** is the act of stealing someone else's words or ideas, whether intentionally or unintentionally. Nobody appreciates a thief. It is **UNACCEPTABLE** to copy portions of other texts or even to paraphrase or summarize someone else's ideas without giving credit to the original author, or to mislead your readers into thinking those words or ideas are your own. It is therefore expected that you will give reference to the original author(s) who may have inspired you and that you will document all your sources (Carpenter). RUP's plagiarism policy is clearly stipulated in the student handbook. Please be aware that plagiarism is a very, very serious crime and results in an automatic F on the paper/project, a phone call home, and suspension from class.

#### **Grading policy:**

Grades are updated and posted in class every two weeks.

- \* **Tests/quizzes = 25%**
- \* **Class work = 25% (this includes participation)**
- \* **Homework = 25%**
- \* **Special Projects = 20%**

**\* Binder Checks = 5 %**

**Office Hours** Office hours are designed to assist students in seeking help outside of class, in order to discuss issues/questions in a small group or one-on-one setting. All students are strongly encouraged to utilize office hours. My office hours are before and after school and during Advisory, by appointment.

**Major assignment estimated due dates:**

**Summer Reading Assignment August 17, 2011**

**To Kill a Mockingbird Journal Week of October 10-14, 2011**

**In the Time of the Butterflies Project Week of December 12-16, 2011**

**Julius Caesar Speech Week of March 12-16, 2012**

**I-Search Research Project Week of May 14-18, 2012**

**“What I want you to know...” Ongoing**

**DTJ journals Ongoing**

### **SYLLABUS: English 10**

Three RESPONSIBLE student contacts from this class are:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ tel. or email: \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_ tel. or email: \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ tel. or email: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that if I ever have any questions about homework or assignments, it is my responsibility to contact Ms. O'Connor by email [koconnor@roselandsd.org], and/or to contact one of the students whose names I have written above.

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