

Course Title: English 10

Course Description/content

Unit One - Short Stories - In this unit students will master the basic elements of fiction works. They will become familiar with plot and conflict, characterization, scene and tone, the different kinds of irony, symbolism, and theme. Students will take an identification test on these subjects. There will also be reading comprehension quizzes and work sheets along with the reading.

Unit Two – *Fahrenheit 451* - Students will read the novel in stages as they discuss it in class, paying particular attention to the fiction elements in the novel that they mastered in the short stories unit of this class. Parallels between our world and the world Ray Bradbury predicted 60 years ago will be discussed. Students will take an essay test on the novel. There will also be reading comprehension quizzes and other relevant work along with the reading.

Unit Three - *Julius Caesar* - Students will become familiar with both the play and the history of Julius Caesar and the events surrounding his life. Students will also become familiar with the Elizabethan Era and William Shakespeare. Students will read and discuss the play as a class, paraphrase part of the play, and take a test on the play.

Unit Four - *To Kill a Mockingbird* - Students will read the novel in stages as they discuss it in class, paying particular attention to the fiction elements in the novel that they mastered in the short stories unit of this class. The major themes of prejudice, injustice and maturity and the perspectives that come with it will be discussed. Students will take an essay test on the novel. There will also be reading comprehension quizzes and other relevant work along with the reading.

Unit Five - Grammar - Students will become familiar with the four kinds of sentences and their structures, proper punctuation, and some irregular word and sentence forms. Students will be tested through periodic quizzes.

Unit Six - Writing - While this is incorporated into many of the other units, students will have some stand-alone writing assignments which will concentrate on various aspects of writing such as sentence variety, description, and formal paper forms.

*In many cases the units in this class will run concurrently.

Instructional Methods and Grading: While students will do group work as a tool to further their learning, significant grading will be taken largely from a variety of literary tests, reading check quizzes, written assignments, grammar tests, homework and vocabulary quizzes, and weekly words.

Discipline Expectations: Students should come to class with the expectation that learning is an active process that requires their participation. This should not be detracted from by inappropriate behaviors that are distracting to others, include the instructor. Such behaviors will be pointed out, and if continued, students engaging in them will be removed from the class. Also, as a place of preparation students are expected to treat the instructor and each other with consideration and respect.