

# English 10 Course Syllabus Honors

## Course Overview

In this course you will read short stories and novels, autobiographies and other types of nonfiction, poems, and plays. The works come from a broad range of time periods and cultures. As you read and analyze the literature, you will become more skilled interpreters of literature and the world in which we live.

In addition to reading, you will be writing expository, narrative, and persuasive essays as well as stories and poems. In journals, you will also have opportunity to express yourself informally; your journals will serve as a record of your growth and development as writers and thinkers during your sophomore year. We will not, of course, neglect grammar study and vocabulary development.

## Contact Information

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## Course Content

Novels, Poetry, Short Stories, Drama, Grammar Usage and Writing, Nonfiction, Literary Terms and Forms, Epic Poetry, Electronic Texts, Research Fundamentals, Reading Strategies, Persuasive Language and Logic, Listening, Viewing, and Speaking, Study Skills and Test Taking

## Unit Sequence

Unit 1: Introduction to English 10: Practicing the Habits of a Lifelong Learner

Unit 2: Expanding your Global Awareness: *Things Fall Apart*

Unit 3: Where Do I Fit In? Exploring Identity and Culture Through Literature (*The Awakening* and *Lord of the Flies*)

Unit 4: Exploring the Void: Literature Explains Existence (*Alas, Babylon*)

Unit 5: *Warriors Don't Cry*: Explorations of Culture, Identity, and History

Unit 6: Nature as Metaphor: A Sense of Time and Place

Unit 7: Literature as an Agent to Social Change: *Great Expectations*

Unit 8: I Need a Hero: Joseph Campbell, *Siddhartha*, and *Life of Pi*

Unit 9: The Allegory (*Animal Farm*)

Unit 10: Dramatic Literature

Unit 11: Thematic Unit Genres

Grammar mini-lessons will be spread out among the year.  
Some units will run simultaneously.

Summer reading assignment is due the first day of class for 100 points. Late work is not allowed unless you are a transfer student.

### Resources

TCCHS Library

Classroom Textbooks

### Materials

Paper

Pencils and/or Pens (Blue or Black Ink Only)

Folder and/or Three-Ring Binder

Composition Notebook

*Alas, Babylon* by Pat Frank

**Please note: I only have classroom sets of the following novels: *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin, *Warriors Don't Cry* by Melba Patillo Beals, and *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel. If you would like your own copy, you will need to purchase these.**

### Attendance Policy/Makeup Work

Your presence (mind and body) in class is essential. If you must miss class due to illness or other circumstances beyond your control, it is your responsibility to find out which assignments you missed, to acquire the handouts, and to borrow and copy the class notes for the day(s) you were absent. Because you will have at least a week's lead time for papers and other major assignments, the due date remains the same regardless of your absence. If an emergency arises (illness or otherwise) and you absolutely cannot complete an assignment, please come and speak with me.

### Assessment/Grading Policy

Your grades will be based on the following aspects of this class: Reading Comprehension, Listening Comprehension, Speaking, Writing, Viewing, Research, Study Skills, and Literacy Community Membership. The last category assesses your active participation as a member of a literacy community (English classroom). **In other words, you will not pass this class by remaining an inactive participant.** Along with active participation, you must adhere to the due dates given for each summative assessment.

### Late Assignments

Your responsibilities in this class include keeping your own up-to-date assignment notebook, maintaining pace with the reading, and turning all assignments in on time. If you do not understand an assignment, ask for help far enough in advance to have time to finish the assignment. If you are having personal difficulties apart from class, talk to me before an assigned due date so that we can make other arrangements. All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the day of the due date. Because this is an honors class, late work will not be permitted unless it is an extreme circumstance. This will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

You will be given at least a week's lead-time for out-of-class papers and other major assignments, so plan accordingly: if you spend most weeknights working on daily

homework for other classes, you will probably need to block out a significant amount of time on the weekend for prewriting, writing, and revising your work.

### Reading

Keeping up with reading assignments is crucial to your success in this class. If you have not read the assignment, you cannot thoughtfully participate in class discussion. If you fall behind in the reading, you will become overwhelmed and set yourself up for frustration when it comes time to write a paper. Bear in mind that some of the reading will be difficult and you may not understand it all the first time. That's OK; I want the reading to stretch your thinking. Do the best you can to understand; meanwhile, write down questions in your notebook that we can address in class. I am always happy to help anyone who asks for help.

### Classroom Expectations

Be...  
Prompt,  
Prepared,  
Polite,  
Productive, and  
Persistent.

Explanation:

Prompt: Get quickly to class and immediately find your seat.

Prepared: Be prepared to learn. Be in your seat and have books, pencils, paper, and homework ready.

Polite: Be respectful of yourself and others.

Productive: Give your best at all times.

Persistent: Be willing to work from start to finish.

### Plagiarism Policy

Throughout this course, there may be ample opportunities to use another's work as your own. This is unacceptable behavior as a student in this classroom. If you are found to be cheating on any assignment, you will receive a 0% on the assignment. Please be aware that when you share your paper with someone else, you are also cheating. You will receive a 0% as well.

According to the Merriam Webster Dictionary, plagiarism is defined as the following: to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own, use (another's production) without crediting the source, to commit literary theft, present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.

### Personal Statement

It is very important that you review your notes and homework frequently! The homework I assign will have one or more of the following aims:

- *Practice* reinforces the learning of material presented in class and helps you master specific skills.

- *Preparation* provides supporting information—history, skills, definitions—for what’s forthcoming; it will help when new material is covered in class.
- *Extension* or elaboration involves the transfer of previously learned skills to new situations.

• *Integration* asks you to apply skills and concepts to produce a single product.

I will make every effort to communicate the purpose of homework assignments to you. If you are having difficulties with anything covered in this course, see me as soon as possible. I am excited and proud to be teaching this course. The nature of this course is to challenge and to push you to stretch beyond what you already know and can do. Although I expect you to work hard this year, I will never give you an assignment or expect you to do anything I haven’t already done or wouldn’t/couldn’t have done myself when I was your age. I also want to say now that I appreciate your effort and value each of you as important members of the class, regardless of the grade you earn from me. Your grade does not equate to your value as a person. My wish is to help you discover and cultivate your gifts for use in a meaningful life.

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I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Student), have read the syllabus for English II. I understand the policies and procedures set forth by Mrs. Bailey. I understand what is expected of me in order to succeed in this class.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/Guardian), have read the syllabus for English II. I understand the policies and procedures set forth by Mrs. Bailey. I understand what is expected of my child in order to succeed in this class.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your parent/guardian’s signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date