



ENGLISH 10 HONORS 2017-2018 SYLLABUS

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ROOM: J

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COURSE OVERVIEW

This is a reading and writing intensive course that covers major works of western literature from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance. Our focus will be on literary analysis, rhetorical skills, and a biblical worldview. You will develop writing skills in the areas of organization, style, and voice.

TEXTS

The following texts are supplemented by a broad selection of short stories, poetry, and essays.

- Independent Reading Selection (summer)
- *Cyrano de Bergerac*, Edmond Rostand (summer)
- *Macbeth*, William Shakespeare
- *Beowulf*
- *The Hobbit*, J.R.R. Tolkien
- *The Canterbury Tales*, Geoffrey Chaucer
- *Inferno*, Dante Alighieri
- *Paradise Lost*, John Milton
- *Poetry Selections*
- *Collection of traditional & modern fairy tales*
- *The Blue Book of Grammar and Punctuation*

N.B. Some texts contain mature content or controversial issues. We discuss context and examine multiple views. I approach all texts prayerfully to ensure discussions are meaningful and appropriate.

SPEECH

On numerous occasions, students are expected to speak in front of the class in both informal and formal presentations. There will also be 1 memorized recitation per semester.

FILMS

Films are treated as texts as they foster discussions on intertextuality, literary revisionism, and perspective. I also incorporate music and video clips to illustrate concepts such as tone, figurative language, literary tropes, and persuasive appeals. We will watch portions of the following films:

- *Cyrano de Bergerac*, in French with English subtitles (1990)
- *Macbeth*, Folger Shakespeare stage production (2008)
- *The Hobbit 1-3* (2012-2014)

GRADING

- Participation, Engagement, & Preparedness (P.E.P) 10%
- Homework 20%
- Quizzes 30%
- Tests (including major papers and projects) 40%

Unless otherwise noted, assignments should be turned into the tray *at the beginning of class*. There are at least three test grades per quarter and a final exam at the end of each semester. A research paper is assigned in the 2nd semester. The P.E.P grade reflects the student's engagement during in-class assignments and preparedness (bringing materials to class, engaging in discussions, etc.).

MAKE UP WORK POLICY

You have one day for each excused absence to make up assignments. Any missed tests will be rescheduled. If you have an unexcused absence, all missed homework is due the first day you return to class. If you know that you will be absent, please contact me ahead of time, NOT on the day an assignment is due. Late work will not be accepted and will result in a zero (school policy). Please refer to the school handbook for further details.

CLASSROOM CIVILITY *“Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.” Colossians. 3:12*

The literature we read provides many opportunities for class discussions and debates. You are encouraged to share your thoughts and speak your mind in a manner that is respectful of others with differing perspectives. Opinions should be expressed with compassion and humility.

GUIDELINES

- Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating, will result in a zero and a referral. I trust you to complete your own work and be truthful in all interactions.
- Come to class prepared. Bring your book and binder to class every day.
- No spoilers! If you have already read a book or watched a film adaptation, don't spoil the plot.
- Write clearly and legibly. Illegible assignments will be marked *Incomplete* and you will be required to rewrite or type your work. Feel free to type any take-home assignments.
- All formal writing will follow MLA guidelines.

PROCEDURES

- Most class sessions will begin with a brief bellwork writing prompt (part of P.E.P. grade).
- During tests and quizzes, you will place your backpacks and all other belongings against the back wall. You may not have anything at your desk except a pen and a water bottle.
- You will write and sign the honor code at the bottom of every test.
- Use a blue or black pen for all homework, quizzes, and tests. No pencils, please.
- At the top of all your work, you will print your full name, date, and your assigned number.

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

RENWEB – school-wide information management system (hw assignments, grades, etc.)

I post homework and test/quiz dates on Friday afternoons for the following week. They are also on my board and announced verbally. ***I defer to RenWeb if there is ever a discrepancy.***

LEECLASSROOM.COM – class notes, rubrics, and resources (Password: 2COR4)

GOOGLE CLASSROOM – online writing assignments and discussion boards (Class code: uggs9jk)

REMIND.COM – text announcements and reminders (Text @10h1718 to the number 81010)

TURNITIN.COM – submit formal essays, plagiarism reports (Class ID: 15496670 / Password: beowulf)

*“There is always the danger that we may just do the work for the sake of the work. This is where the **respect** and the **love** and the devotion come in – that we do it to God, to Christ, and that’s why we try to do it as beautifully as possible.” ~Mother Teresa*