

English 10

Andrew Buck

abuck@forsyth.k12.mt.us

(406) 346-2796 Ext. 5309

Classroom/ Office Hours

Students are welcome to use my room as a writing and English study space in addition to seeking individual help. I will be available before school from 7 am until first bell every morning and stay after the final bell until 5:00 most evenings. Other responsibilities may occasionally conflict with this schedule, so, if the matter is time-sensitive, it is always best to set up an appointment in advance.

Course Description

English 10 is a course designed to allow students to develop their skill in oral and written communication of the English language. The successful student will leave this course with the ability to make themselves understood both while speaking and writing English. They will use abstract and critical thinking to analyze both their own work and the works of other authors. Students will also be exposed to the research process, learning to create intelligible and credible scholastic writings in MLA format which draw upon verified and properly sourced material.

Textbook and Novels

Holt McDougal Literature: Grade 10

Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare (in literature book)

Animal Farm by George Orwell

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain

Supplies

Pen: dark blue or black

1 college rule notebook (dedicated to English 10)

1 two-pocket folder for homework

1 GB or greater flash drive (optional)

1 Lg. Book Cover

Course Overview

Students will begin the semester by exploring the elements of narrative as they relate to short stories. They will then be asked to apply this knowledge to classic examples of literature; beginning with *Julius Caesar* and ending with *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Throughout the course, students will be asked to engage in short and long-term research culminating in the production of scholarly and creative writing.

Grading System

Student's grades will be determined by the percentage of total possible points that the student has scored out of the total points possible. I will use the Forsyth High School system to determine the student's letter grade. As a general rule, the longer we spend on a project, the more points it will be worth. Illegible work will receive a grade of zero and the student will be offered a chance to redo it for partial credit.

Quizzes

During a normal week, there will be approximately three, open-note quizzes per week. These are worth 10 points each, with a possibility of 15 points with extra credit questions. This means that a student has a good opportunity to earn close to 120 points per month if they are diligent in their note taking.

Tests

Tests will be given at the end of a unit. Test questions will be approximately 60% familiar quiz questions, 20% critical analysis, and 20% writing. Tests will generally be worth 100 to 150 points based on the material covered in the unit. Unless otherwise stated, tests will be closed-notes.

Rules and Expectations

- Be prepared. Have all your homework and materials ready in your seat when the bell rings. Don't be tardy. Stow distracting devices and personal items appropriately.
- Be respectful. Treat yourself, your classmates, other faculty, and me with dignity at all times.
- Be polite; leave fights outside, do not use profanity, and do not trash talk.

Students who excel will...

- ask questions.
- take notes.
- help others
- **choose** to enjoy the material

Students who forget the rules will progress through these steps.

1. Receive a verbal warning
2. Lose their total daily participation points
3. Be removed to the hallway
4. Receive an after-school detention
5. Be referred to the office

I may skip any of these steps at my discretion based on the behavior displayed in order to maintain a safe and productive educational environment.

Homework and Makeup Work

Homework may consist of notes-study, worksheets, writing projects, independent reading, and study for quizzes and exams. I will endeavor to leave at least one night a week with no homework, but I expect students to carve out a few minutes each night for study. This may include reviewing notes, rereading class texts, or revision of written work.

Students should refer to FHS policy regarding missing and make-up work. High school students who do not complete assignments will be required to meet with me in order to create a plan of action for earning partial credit. Full credit will not be awarded for late work.