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English 10H Chino Hills High School

2020-2021 Syllabus

**Course Overview**

This course is aligned with the state’s Common Core standards for ELA. Our focus covers analysis of complex texts, both literary and informational, better understanding of argument and rhetoric, and improvement of academic writing.

While individual writing assignments will weigh heavily in the final grade, much of the work this year will be done through collaborative discussions and group work. These opportunities not only create engaging experiences for students to learn organically, but also provide practice with real world language skills and allow for more immediate feedback from me and peers.

**Major Texts**

*To Kill a Mockingbird,* Harper Lee

*Night,* Elie Wiesel

*Julius Caesar,* William Shakespeare

Along with these texts, we will also incorporate texts included in the course textbook, Pearson *My Perspectives*, as well as excerpts from non-fiction texts such as speeches, essays, and articles from reputable sources.

As this is a unique situation and curriculum is evolving to meet the needs of students, major texts may change throughout the year but will be confined to board approved curriculum.

**Grades**

Grades are based on weighted categories:

Assignments/Classwork (35%)- includes daily classwork and homework. This is often checked in and not graded for content (though students can lose points for not finishing or showing minimal effort). Completing assignments guides in class discussion and is vital for students to stay on track. I don’t know what you need help with if you don’t attempt to complete the practice.

Assessments/Projects (65%)- Includes essays, presentations, and other projects (including group projects). These are always graded for content and should indicate a student’s mastery of the content. Assessments are returned with individual feedback and often take longer to grade.

Always turn in Assessments even if late. You will lose points, but I will generally grade late assessments.

Work submitted through google classroom will be returned through google classroom. Official, weighted scores will be posted to Aeries. This does not happen every day. I try to update aeries as I finish major assessments or every 2-3 weeks, but writing takes a while to grade so please be patient. I also try to weigh assignments at the end of the semester more heavily to allow students to show improvement. This means grades can change for good or bad at the end.

**DISTANCE LEARNING DETAILS: STUDENT WORK SUBMISSION AND GRADING**

* Distance learning will occur any time schools are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
* Live instruction will occur in Google Meet each day we are scheduled for class. The Meet link is located in the Google Classroom at the top of the page.
* Students will receive announcements, resources, and assignments AND will submit work through Google Classroom (with some work submitted through TurnItIn.com).
	+ If you are having trouble accessing our Google Classroom, please ensure you are logged into your CVUSD account. This is the same Google Classroom we will use all year, whether we are in blended learning or distance learning models.
* Assignments and assessments will be located in the Classwork section of the Google Classroom.
* Assignments and assessments will be returned through Google Classroom, and graded final essays will be returned via Turn It In. Please check your CVUSD email regularly.
* If you have extenuating circumstances preventing you from completing course work, please contact me via email or Remind ASAP.
* Official grades will be posted in Aeries. I post updates as regularly as I can, but please give your teachers some grace time to grade and update as we manage distance learning.

As we navigate distance learning, plans and procedures may change. Any changes will be communicated in the Stream section of the Google Classroom. We will work together and be flexible during this time. Please use email for non-urgent matters and office hours for more time-sensitive concerns, or if you need additional support with classwork.

**DISTANCE LEARNING ONLINE EXPECTATIONS:**

1. Show up on time and prepared for class (this means both physically and mentally present)
2. Check yourself into attendance at the start of class. On non-class days, you have until the following day to check yourself in.
3. Try to find a quiet, private space for class time when possible
4. Wear school-appropriate attire (sorry, no pj’s!)
5. Keep your camera on at all times. Small breaks are acceptable, particularly if you are engaged in “asynchronous” work
6. Stay muted unless called on or in a small group
7. Use the raise hand button if you have a question that needs to be answered right away
8. Use the chat box to ask questions we can get to sometime within the class period
9. Restroom breaks are fine w/o teacher permission; please be appropriate in limiting their length
10. Eating during class: light snacks are fine, full meals are not. We want you ready to speak/participate and focused on class.
11. Abide by all group/classroom norms during breakout work (tbd)
12. Always allow ample time to submit your work online. Tech issues happen, but we can prepare for them. When in doubt, communicate.

**DISTANCE LEARNING OFFICE HOURS:**

Tuesday & Thursday: 1:35 to 2:20 pm

Wednesday & Friday: 7:30 to 8:15 am

I will be at my computer on a google meet during these hours. The links to the google meet are located in your Google Classroom, in the Classwork section. You may still email me outside of office hours, but my response may take longer.