

English 10A Syllabus ~ 2011-2012

Instructor: Mr. Apol and Ms. Lorey
Location: Room 213, Zeeland East High School
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1 *Rule in this Classroom: Students will be respectful of each other, all teachers, all visitors, and the classroom.*

Welcome to English 10A! We are excited and happy to have you in our classroom community! This semester will be a productive semester during which you will learn an incredible amount. Please be prepared to work with me and your classmates to achieve success. We have high expectations for you and expect you to work hard, but we will be here for you to help you achieve success this semester. We think we will all have fun and learn a great deal!

Course Description/Information

English 10 is a full year, 10th grade level course. First semester is English 10A, and second semester is English 10B. The course serves as a building block studying the elements of reading, writing, and speaking in reference to Michigan's Common Core State Standards. This is the second in a four-year, sequential English course requirement at Zeeland East and Zeeland West High Schools.

Required Course Materials

1. Your iPad 2!
2. Loose leaf lined paper in a 1.5" binder with at least six tab dividers. Your final exam for the semester will be a portfolio of your work, so it is *essential* that you stay organized with everything we do!
3. Pens (blue or black, only, please)
4. Small sticky notes/Post-Its
5. 2 highlighters of different colors
6. A small journal to be used for personal writings in class. This may be done on your iPad... We'll come up with a good solution!
7. *Elements of Literature: World Literature*. Austin, TX: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2006. We will use a classroom set. An online version of the textbook will be available for you to use when you're away from school.

Objectives

Writing: We will write on a daily basis during class and at home. While some of our writing will be informal, significant writing assignments will be taken through the entire writing process. We will spend much of the year developing as writers.

Reading: We will read works of literature and spend time learning and utilizing various reading strategies. One of our primary goals will be connecting with texts using our own prior knowledge and experiences.

Vocabulary: We will expand our vocabularies and improve our written communication through relevant vocabulary we encounter in our reading selections and through additional vocabulary given in class. We will reveal our understanding of these vocabulary words in the quizzes we have.

Grammar and Mechanics: We will review various grammatical structures and writing mechanics in the context of our reading selections and writing pieces. In the process, we will discover how to make grammar and punctuation work for us!

Speaking and Listening: Each student will perform formal presentations to the class. Short, informal oral communication will also help students improve both their presentation and listening skills. We will learn how to communicate competently and confidently with a variety of audiences.

Assignments

Major assignments for this semester include the following:

- “Bag O’ Me” personal speech
- “Life & Loss” culminating project, presentation, and reflection paper
- “Life & Loss” group analysis paper;
- *Night* timed essay;
- *Night* culminating project, presentation, and reflection paper
- “The Power of Love” poetry collection
- poetry analysis essay
- portfolio of your work from throughout the semester.

Other ongoing assignments that will be included in assessment for the class include the following:

- Journals
- Contemporary connections reflections
- Theme of the week reflections
- Formal group and class discussions
- Participation and citizenship
- Reading group work
- Grammar exercises
- Literary terms
- Vocabulary quizzes.

Note: It is in your best interest that you **participate 100%** in the class in order to reach your potential. We all will be REQUIRED to participate in class.

Extra Note: I will update and post grades ONLINE every week. To monitor your own grade throughout the semester, you should check online at Parent Portal

Grading

The following school-wide grading scale is used in this course:

A	100%-94%	B-	82%-80%	D+	69%-67%
A-	93%-90%	C+	79%-77%	D	66%-63%
B+	89%-87%	C	76%-73%	D-	62%-60%
B	86%-83%	C-	72%-70%	F	59%-0%

Homework and Attendance Policies

Homework Policy: All assignments must be completed and submitted for credit. Late work may be turned in up to three days late for half credit of the original grade earned. After that, the assignment must still be turned in, but no points will be earned.

If a student is missing a number of assignments that is significantly affecting his/her grade, Ms. Lorey or Mr. Apol will contact parents and will require the student to stay after school or during lunch for a half hour each day until the missing assignment(s) are turned in. Failure to comply will turn into a disciplinary referral.

Attendance and Tardy Policies: Unexcused absences will not be tolerated. All unexcused absences will result in a loss of ALL points for any assignment(s) due the day of the absence, as well as any

assignments and/or activities assigned the day of the unexcused absence. If you miss a quiz or test due to an unexcused absence, you will earn an automatic “0.”

Make-up Work: It is your responsibility to see me about missed assignments. This should be done at appropriate times, i.e. in between class periods, before school, or after school. Make-up work or missed tests due to one excused absence must be completed within one day after returning to school. For more than one day of absence, you will be given the number of days of excused absences to make up work and/or to take a test. If a test is missed due to an excused absence, it is your responsibility to make arrangements with me to take the test.

When turning in your make-up work for an excused absence, it should be turned into the appropriate InBox with a “While I Was Out” form stapled to the top of it. If the assignment is to be turned in electronically via e-mail, you must include the following in the subject line:

(Your first and last names, the hour, the word “absent,” and the date(s) you were absent).

Electronic Devices Policy

All cell phones must be powered down *before* entering the classroom and may not be used during class without the permission of Ms. Lorey. Please avoid entering the room while listening to your iPod/iPad; instead, be ready to say “Hello!” and to talk with others who have already come in. If you do not respect this policy, Ms. Lorey will hold onto your electronic device until the end of the school day, and additional disciplinary action may result.

Always come to class prepared with your iPad charged and ready to go. If you forgot to charge your iPad the following night or forgot your iPad at home, you must check one out from the media center sometime before school or during passing time. You will not leave Ms. Lorey’s classroom after class to retrieve an iPad from the media center. Failure to come to class prepared will result in a loss of participation/citizenship points.

Classroom Expectations

A. Students are expected to come to class on time and prepared.

- You must be in your seat when the bell rings. Standing or walking around the room past the bell will result in a tardy. Consecutive tardies will result in a grade reduction; see ZEHS school wide policy.
- Students are not permitted to leave the classroom after the bell. However, two “grace” passes (locker or bathroom) will be allowed per marking period for emergency situations.
- The bell starts class, not the teachers. The teachers dismiss class, not the bell.

B. Students are expected to participate in class activities, simulations, debates, and discussions. When working in groups, a collaborative effort includes staying on task and being a responsible member of the group.

C. Any cases of cheating or plagiarism will result in an automatic zero. Other appropriate action as defined in the student handbook will be taken.

D. Students are expected to seek help when they need it.

E. Students are expected to treat their classmates and teachers with respect and courtesy.

Respect and courtesy will bring you a long way in this classroom. If you treat everyone in this class with respect, you can expect that your time will be enjoyable. In this class, you are expected to:

- Respect the classroom environment
- Respect your classmates by listening to his/her opinions
- Respect every adult and visitor in the classroom
- Respect yourself, Mr. Apol, and Ms. Lorey by coming to class prepared to learn and with a positive attitude

F. If a student disrupts the learning process, the Student Responsibility Center (SRC) procedure will be followed.

If a student chooses to disrupt the learning process in the classroom, Ms. Lorey and Mr. Apol will initiate a series of questions that are designed to allow that student to think about what they want in relationship to the rules of the classroom. If the student continues to be disruptive, then he/she has made the choice to go to the (SRC). The following SRC procedure will be followed:

1. Ms. Lorey and/or Mr. Apol will issue one warning for an undesirable behavior

2. **SRC (Student Responsibility cCenter) Step I.** Student will be asked to go to SRC to create a behavior plan for improvement. Before student can return to class he/she will need to meet with the teacher to present their behavior plan of improvement.
3. **SRC Step II.** Upon a second offense the student will return to SRC and the above procedure will be followed. In addition, parents will be contacted.
4. **SRC Step III.** Upon the third offense the student will be sent to SRC in addition to serving a Saturday school and a parent meeting will be arranged.
5. **SRC Step IV.** Upon the fourth offense student will be sent to SRC before serving an out of school suspension.

G. Assignments are due at the beginning of the hour. If they do not come in at the beginning of the hour, they will be considered late. This means that hard copy papers must be printed and stapled prior to the beginning of the class period. If an assignment is due electronically, this should be done before arriving to class. If the time on the email/electronic submission is after the class start time, it will be considered late.

H. Students are expected to clean up after themselves. Please, no eating in the classroom.

I. Students are welcome to drink water in the classroom—nothing else.

If you have a hard time remembering all of the rules, it may help to think about the six Ps—be **P**rompt, **P**repared, **P**ositive, **P**olite, and make sure you **P**roduce and **P**articipate in class.

Mr. Apol and Ms. Lorey are here to help you succeed in English 10. If you ever need help or have questions, please feel free to contact us. Please keep in mind that, while we may be able to receive your emails during the day, we may not be able to respond right away. We will make every effort possible to reply to your emails within 24 hours.

Smile. Have fun. Learn. Work hard. Ask questions. Achieve success. Respect one another. Enjoy the class!

Dear Parents Or Guardians,

Thank you for taking the time to read through the syllabus. Your student is required to keep this syllabus in his/her homework folder at all times. Feel free to refer back to this packet if you have any questions throughout the school year. Also, please contact us using the information listed on the first page with any questions and concerns that you have as your student progresses in this class.

We would appreciate if you would fill out the bottom of this page once you have read the syllabus. If your student returns the form by Thursday, Sept. 8, he/she will receive a total of 5 extra credit points to start out the school year on a positive note. If he/she turns it in Friday, Sept. 9, he or she will get 3 points.

We look forward to working with your son/daughter this semester.

Thank you,

Katherine Lorey and Andrew Apol

printed student name

student signature

parent/guardian signature