

## **Overview of Pre-AP/English 10 Honors**

### **Program:**

English 10 Honors meets 90 minutes per day for one semester, and is paired with another class, English Honors Composition and Research, which also meets 90 minutes per day for one semester. Honors students are required to take both classes. These classes lead into AP Language and Composition in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, which in turn leads into AP Literature and Composition in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Students must seek a recommendation from their English 10 Honors teacher to advance to AP Language and Composition. Classes are designed for students who opt out of the program or do not receive recommendations to advance.

### **Course Design:**

English 10 Honors is arranged chronologically. The students read a sampling of different genres from many periods of American Literature, from Pre-Colonial America to Contemporary America. Genres studied include the novel, drama, short fiction, poetry, essay, music, and film. The chronological design allows students to develop an understanding of American Literature; not only of the distinct periods, but also of how ideas connect and relate to other periods.

## **General Expectations and Class Outline**

**Grading:** *A whole points grading scale is used.*

Dailey work (includes: homework, reading quizzes, etc.) is counted 1 time.

Quizzes & Essays are counted 2 times.

Interaction Journals are counted 2 times. ***Interaction Journals cannot be rewritten!***

Tests are counted 3 times.

Revisions (essay rewrites) are counted 3 times.

Projects (Research papers, graffiti journals/walls, book report essays) are counted 4 times.

### **Make-up Work and Attendance:**

According to Dorman High School's policy (located in the student handbook), students are allowed 5 absences in each class. When a student is absent he or she is responsible for the work missed. Make-up work can be discussed with students before or after school or during my planning time (1<sup>st</sup> block: 8:30 – 9:30 PM). I will not devote time before class to discuss missed assignments, nor is it possible to give out missed assignments during class. Students will be assigned a time, and have one week to turn in make-up work.

### **Essay:**

Essays are an essential part of English. Expect four to six major essays as a part of your grade. Practice AP prompts and in-class writing will also be a part of the class. Students are allowed and encouraged to rewrite out of class essays. The best way to improve writing is through consistent practice. Significant improvements must be made in order for a student's grade to improve. Rewrites are not an exercise in handwriting. Students will have 5 school days to turn in a rewrite of an essay. Students are required to schedule an individual conference before rewriting. The revision/rewrite will count more, but the initial essay grade will also count.

### **Assessment:**

Essays in this class will be graded using the nine-point AP scale rubric. Students will be given this rubric, and I encourage both students and parents to become familiar with this assessment tool.

**Materials:** *Three-ring Binder; Pens, Pencils, Highlighters*

### **Classroom Expectations:**

- Students will be in their desks and ready to begin when the tardy bell rings.
- Students will have appropriate text, paper, and writing instrument.
- Cheating or plagiarism is not tolerated.
- Students who have been absent are responsible for make-up assignments.
- Students will remain in their seats until the end-of-class bell rings.
- Students must treat each other and the teacher with respect.
- Students are not allowed food or drinks (including water bottles) in the classroom.
- Students should not use class time for personal grooming. (No brushes, make-up, etc.)

### **Texts:**

*McDougal Littell: American Literature* – School-issued text book

*Great American Short Stories from Hawthorne to Hemingway*

**\*\*\*Parents, the following novels listed below need to be purchased by the middle of the semester.** [Students will annotate these texts.] You may purchase them online or at a local bookstore.

*Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston

*The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

### **English 10 Pre-AP/Honors Course Schedule:**

This schedule is tentative and may be adjusted as needed throughout the semester.

**\*\*\***(Note: The first week of class is also devoted to the summer reading assignments.)

- **Unit 1 (2 weeks): Native American Literature** – creation myths including *The Sky Tree* and *How the World Was Made*, *The Navaho Origin Legend*, *The Walam Olum*, *The Iroquois Constitution*, *I Will Fight No More Forever* from Chief Joseph, *Chief Seattle's 1854 Speech*, *A Visit from Reverend Tileston* by Elizabeth Cook-Lynn, *Accounts of the Cherokee Trail of Tears* by Elizabeth Mulligan, *Elbow Room* a film from ABC television, *I Hated Tonto*, *Still Do* by Sherman Alexie, *The Names of Women* by Louise Erdrich, and Native American poetry
- **Unit 2 (1 ½ weeks); The Colonial Period** – *Of Plymouth Plantation* by William Bradford, *Upon the Burning of Our House* and *To My Dear and Loving Husband* by Anne Bradstreet, *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God* by Jonathan Edwards, *Huswifery* by Edward Taylor, and *The Wonders of the Invisible World* by Cotton Mather
- **Unit 3 (2 weeks): Drama** – *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller, Introduction to the McCarthy Era
- **Unit 4 (1 ½ weeks): The Revolutionary Period** – *The Autobiography of Ben Franklin* and *Poor Richard's Almanack*, *Speech to the Virginia Convention* by Patrick Henry, *The Crisis-No. 1* by Thomas Paine, *The Declaration of Independence*, *To His Excellency, General Washington* by Phyllis Wheatley
- **Unit 5 (3 weeks): Romanticism/Transcendentalism** – *The Fall of the House of Usher* – *Edgar Allan Poe*, *The Devil and Tom Walker* by Washington Irving, excerpts from Cooper's *Leatherstocking Tales*, *To a Waterfowl* and *Thanatopsis* by William Cullen Bryant, *Nature* and *Self-Reliance* by Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Walden* and *Civil Disobedience* by Henry David Thoreau, Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Minister's Black Veil* and *Rappaccini's Daughter*, and *Bartleby*, *The Scrivener* by Herman Melville
- **Unit 6 (1 ½ weeks); Poetry of Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson**
- **Unit 7 (1 week); Civil War Literature** – *An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge*, Frederick Douglass' *Autobiography*

- **Unit 8 (1 ½ weeks): Realism, Naturalism, and Regionalism** – *A Story of an Hour* by Kate Chopin, *The Yellow Wallpaper* and *Why I Wrote The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gillman, *To Build a Fire* by Jack London, *The White Heron* by Sara Orne Jewett, and *Poetry*
- **Unit 9 (2 weeks): The Harlem Renaissance and Modern Poetry** – Introductions into The Jazz Age and The Great Migration, Poetry of Langston Hughes, Countee Cullen, Claude McKay, **Novel** - *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston, Modern Poetry selections from Robinson, Williams, Lowell, Sandburg, Cummings, Eliot, Frost
- **Unit 10 (2 weeks): Novel** – *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- **Unit 11 (1 week): Modernism and the Southern Renaissance** – *Paul's Case* by Willa Cather, *Bernice Bobs Her Hair* by F. Scott Fitzgerald, *A Good Man is Hard to Find* by Flannery O'Connor, *A Worn Path* by Eudora Welty, *A Rose for Emily* by William Faulkner, *The End of Something* by Ernest Hemingway
- **Unit 12 (1 week): Contemporary poetry and short selections** - John Updike, Jack Kerouac, Alice Walker, James Baldwin, Kurt Vonnegut

**Supplemental Reading:**

Students will choose at least one outside American Literature novel to read through-out the semester. Dates will be announced. A list of novels will be given to students during the semester. This is in addition to the required texts previously listed.

**Vocabulary:**

Vocabulary will be covered in conjunction with reading selections, units of literature, and vocabulary books. Vocabulary will be assessed in the form of writing assignments and/or quizzes and *will occur regularly*. Vocabulary quizzes cannot be retaken unless extra vocabulary work is performed proving student's attempt to learn the lessons.

**Contact:**

I am available for phone calls and conferences between 8:30 P.M. and 9:30 P.M., and before and after school. Please contact me if you have any questions at 582-4347, ext. 2111.

You may also email me at [davism@spart6.org](mailto:davism@spart6.org)

Please sign and return this syllabus by Thursday, August 19, 2010.

Thanks,  
Mike Davis, Ed.D.  
Dorman High School

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(Student Signature)

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(Parent Signature)

I find that email is often an easy way to communicate with parents regularly. If possible, please list your home or office email address below so I may contact you regarding grades, attendance, or due dates throughout the semester. Parents may also check the status of a student's grade via the school network. If it is not possible to list an email address, I will communicate any concerns to you through a phone call. Please feel free to list a phone number that is convenient for me to reach you.

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(Parent Email Address or contact phone number)