

English 2 (10th grade) Syllabus
Toledo Jr/Sr High 2012-2013
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"We must declare ourselves, become known; allow the world to discover this subterranean life of ours which connects kings and farm boys, artists and clerks. Let them see that the important thing is *not* the object of love but the emotion itself."

—Gore Vidal (U.S. writer, 1925—2012)

Required Materials

3-ring binder (1 inch or bigger) with dividers
white college-ruled loose paper
Blue or black ink pens, pencils
2 Spiral-bound Notebooks (College-ruled, at least 100 sheets, 8 ½" x 11")
USB Flash Drive (this will come in handy for you for all your classes)

Textbooks

We will be using the following textbooks in this class:
Elements of Literature: Fourth Course. Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 2003.

Classroom Expectations and Consequences

In this classroom, you are expected to:

- To be on time and sitting quietly in your seat when the bell rings;
- To always come to class prepared with binder, paper, pens/pencils, appropriate textbooks, completed assignments, and any other materials that you are instructed to bring (Additionally, always have with you something to read should you have free time);
- To follow all directions given by the teacher or included on an assignment;
- To meet all deadlines (Assignments are due at the beginning of each class on the due date);
- To be academically honest (plagiarizing and cheating will NOT be tolerated);
- To respect other students and the teacher by being attentive when others are speaking, raising your hand to speak, and not being disruptive;
- To be courteous to others by leaving their things alone;
- To actively participate in group discussions and activities; and
- To follow ALL school rules as described in the TJSH Handbook.

Consequences for failing to meet classroom expectations are:

1st Offense: Verbal Warning

2nd Offense: Student/Teacher conference
3rd Offense: Parent contact/After-School Detention
4th Offense: Sent to Mr. Tucker

Grading

Major assignments will be graded based on Oregon State Standards using a 6-point rubric grading system.

6 = 100%
5 = 90%
4 = 70% (passing score)
3 = 60%
2 = 50%
1 = 40%

More minor assignments (homework, smaller writing assignments, etc.) will be graded based on a simple scale:

√ = Satisfactory (Full Credit – work is neat, complete, readable, and shows effort)
√- = Unsatisfactory (Half Credit – Homework is messy and shows little effort)
X = Unacceptable (No Credit – Homework is missing, mostly incomplete, or unreadable)

Each assignment will have it's own point total, depending on the assignment (ranging from approx. 5 to 20 points).

Essays: Writing is a major component of this course. You will be writing everyday in some capacity or another, either through in-class assignments, reading questions, writing prompts, and/or homework assignments, etc. However, you will also be given formal essay writing assignments that you will work on in and out of class to create finished products using the writing process, which includes pre-writing, organization, drafting, peer-editing, revising/editing, and final product. Each individual essay grade will be composed of points earned from documentation of your writing process, the final draft, and a reflective self-evaluation.

In addition to occasional essays, you will also be given two Work Samples. These are essays that will count for my class as a major grade, but could also count towards your graduation. To graduate, you must either pass the State Writing Test **OR** pass TWO Work Samples in your high school career (9th to 12th grades). These Work Samples must be worked on and completed in class only, and you may not receive help either from peers, family members OR YOUR TEACHER. One will be assigned before January; the other will be assigned sometime between January and June.

Note that all formal papers and essays should be typed in Times New Roman, Font Size 12, Double-Spaced, with 1-inch margins, using the appropriate MLA style for formatting and documentation (*if typing at home is an issue please see me). All in-class writing should be done in blue or black ink, double-spaced on one side of notebook paper.

Tests/Projects: At the end of each unit, you will take a test to evaluate your learning and/or complete a project. Details on the tests and projects will be distributed at the appropriate time.

Independent Study Units: About every nine to ten weeks, you will be required to complete an independent study unit, reading and completing an assigned project related to your reading outside of class. You will also be given time in class to work on these projects, but most of the reading should be done independently. Each independent study project will count as approximately one test grade. You will receive a separate handout with complete instructions on each unit, but the due dates are listed below. On each day, we will have a "show-and-tell" project day.

Novel Unit: Due January 18
Poetry Unit: Due May 17

Absences: Work missed because of an unexcused absence cannot be made up. An exception may be made in the case of a major test should you gain approval from me at least one week prior to the intended absence. In the case of an excused absence, you will have one day for every excused absence to make up work as long as you immediately bring a signed note to the office. If you know in advance that you are going to be absent, please see me ASAP.

Late Work: Late work will typically NOT be accepted, unless it is due to an excused absence. In the rare circumstance that late work due to an unexcused absence, laziness, or forgetfulness is accepted, you will automatically be docked one letter grade for every day it is late.

Tardiness: If you are going to be late to class, you must go to the office and obtain a tardy slip. If you are late coming from another teacher's class, please bring a note from that teacher. If the tardy is unexcused, you will get a zero for the homework or classwork that you missed.

Food is fine so long as it is not noisy. If so, I will ask you to put it away. Drink: only resealable containers, please.

Please: no electronics in class. Put them away. I don't want your stuff. First time: warning. Second time: they go to the office.

TRY — COOPERATE — BE RESPECTFUL — BE RESPONSIBLE — BE SAFE — BE KIND