



Course Overview

Welcome to English 10! Together, we will read some of our language's greatest works of literature, written over the course of literally 1000 years. As we examine novels, plays, poems, and nonfiction informational texts, we'll be preparing for the MCAS, which all sophomores will take as a graduation requirement in the spring. We will honor the calendar, learning the origin of world holidays, and include a special focus on Native American literature in November for Native American Heritage Month, African American literature in February for Black History Month, and LGBTQ literature in June for Pride Month. Our coursework will be aligned to the Common Core State Standards and the Medford District curriculum. In this class, you will have opportunities to think and to be creative!

Course Prerequisites

Prerequisite to enter English 10 Honors: Average grade of B- in Honors English 9 OR

Average grade of A- in Standard English 9

Google Classroom, Class Website, Course Twitter

I will update our Google Classroom every school day. Be sure to join the Google Classroom so you can follow along with the class and complete class assignments. Most assignments will be submitted for grading via the Google Classroom, so it is very important you check the Google Classroom every day we have school. Most days, we will do this during class. Here are the Google Classroom codes for each period:

- Period 1 (College Prep, co-taught with Mrs. Nelson): 6hlcqbo
- Period 2 (College Prep): l74se7k
- Period 4 (College Prep): 252mgk7
- Period 5 (Honors): wizvh3b

I will also periodically update my website, www.misterambrose.com. On my website, you'll find information about our units of study and links to curriculum information. You can also follow me on Twitter: @misterambrose. I will tweet information pertaining to the class at times throughout the year.

Contact Information

Email is a great way to contact me. I check my email multiple times a day, and I always try to get back to you within 24 hours. You should use the school email for correspondence.

- Mr. Ambrose - dambrose@medford.k12.ma.us
- Mrs. Nelson - inelson@medford.k12.ma.us (period 1 only)

Additionally, I will be available for office hours after school at least twice a week and by appointment.

What You'll Need Each Day for Class

- Chromebook
- Agenda Book / Planner
- Pen or Pencil
- Binder or Folder (for anything you might write by hand)
- Free Choice Book (for Fridays)
- A positive attitude

Grading Policy

Your grade for each quarter will be determined simply by dividing your total points earned over the total possible points for the quarter. Individual assignment values will be weighted accordingly:

- Typical 5-30 point Assignments: Daily Work and Participation
- Typical 50 point Assignments: Quizzes, Essay Rough Drafts
- Typical 100 point Assignments: Projects, Essay Final Drafts, Tests

Other Class Policies

- Grade reports are available through School Brains at any time.
- Progress reports will be distributed in the middle of each quarter.
- Honors assignments will be more intensive than College Prep assignments.
- Honors students will read and analyze works of literature that College Prep level students will not.
- College Prep students will have the opportunity to do particular Honors assignments for extra credit.

Units of Study:

Literary Heritage: The Hero's Journey

Anchor Texts: Works of Joseph Campbell, *Beowulf*

Major Assessment: Hero's Journey Project

Social Commentary: Satire as Social Commentary

Anchor Texts: *Animal Farm*, "Modest Proposal"

Major Assessment: Your Own Modest Proposal

The Language of Literature: Shakespeare

Anchor Texts: Sonnets, *Othello*, "A Room of One's Own" Major Assessment: Sonnet Presentation

The Art of Voice: Political Rhetoric

Anchor Text: Amanda Gorman's Speeches

Major Assessment: Original Poems/Speeches

Historical Perspectives: The Medieval Period

Anchor Text: *The Canterbury Tales*

Major Assessment: Your Own Tale

Literary Lenses: Poems and Ballads

Anchor Texts: Modern Songs

Major Assessment: Analyze a Song

Ongoing Units:

PSAT and MCAS Preparation

Free Choice Reading

Vocabulary and Grammar