**Rancho Cotate High School**

**ENGLISH 10 COURSE SYLLABUS**

**2019-2020**

**Instructor: Ms. Dassow Guillory**

Room Number: J-9

Planning Period: 2nd and 7th

School Phone: 707-792-4730

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**Course Description**

This English course is a college-preparatory course that addresses the District-adopted content and performance standards. You will be working on skills to improve reading comprehension, literary response, analysis, vocabulary development, written communication applications, writing process, listening, observing, and speaking. You will employ active learning strategies that enhance and further lifelong learning skills. I believe in my students and have high expectations. I am committed in supporting all of my students and making sure that each student succeeds in my class. We will cover a lot of material in this course and it is important to me that my students have fun while learning all of the material. Therefore, it is important that you bring in a positive attitude and always come prepared to class.

**Course Overview**

Literature: We will read, analyze, and discuss plays, novels, short stories and poetry.

Composition: We will do a variety of writing throughout the year. Students will be guided through the writing process with particular emphasis on analysis and textual support of ideas. *While not always assigned, multiple rough drafts are strongly recommended.*

Grammar: Much of our grammar study will be done through mini-units, daily oral language, and composition revision.

Vocabulary: We will be reviewing a lot of vocabulary that is discussed in the readings.

**Course Objectives**

* To develop note-taking/annotating, listening, and organizational skills.
* To sharpen grammar, punctuation, and usage skills.
* To develop confidence as a reader and a writer.
* To create polished written works through prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing.
* To increase understanding and enjoyment of literature.
* To prepare for future courses and assessments.

**The novels that will be read and discussed in this class include the following:**

*Macbeth*

*Lord of the Flies*

*Bless Me, Ultima*

*Fahrenheit 451*

(There will be several short stories that will be read throughout the year as well)

**Grading**

Grading is on a point system. Tests, quizzes, essays, projects, homework, class work, and class participation are assigned a point value. It is very important that you keep up with your own grades so you have an idea as to where you stand in this course. Please use the Power Schools portal for grades and to check your daily status. Below is a tentative list showing the range of points of upcoming assignments/ participation you will be graded on:

Class Participation = 5-10 points (this is per semester)

Homework/Classwork = 10 – 20 points (approved late assignments will **not** receive full credit)

Quizzes/Tests = 10 – 20 points

Essays and Projects = 50 – 100 points

**\*\*\*** Please note that I will not accept late/make up assignments unless you have a valid excuse for missing an assignment. If you are going to miss a class, it is your responsibility to inform me of your upcoming absence to see what assignments you will be missing. If you become ill, please refer to my website to see if you missed anything on the day/s that you were ill. It is important that you communicate with me so you don’t fall behind. **\*\*\***

**Ms. Dassow’s Class Rules**

-Cell phones must be on off mode during class and in your backpack (completely out of sight).

1st time – phone taken away until the end of the class period

2nd time – parent will need to pick up the phone after school

3rd time – detention

-No food or beverages are allowed in the classroom (bottled water is okay).

-Be sure to throw away all trash in the trashcan (never throw it across the room or at your classmates).

-If you need to use the restroom you must raise your hand and ask for permission. If granted the permission, please take the bathroom pass before leaving the classroom.

-Always come to class prepared and on time (please be in your seat when the bell rings). If you are late to my class I will keep you after class to make up for the time you missed unless you have a pass from the office for being late. Also, always come to class with a positive attitude and willing to learn.

-Be respectful of your classmates and the teacher. Never interrupt when the teacher or your classmates are speaking, respect all class materials, and please don’t leave your seat during instruction.

-Always raise your hand when you would like to speak, never blurt out an answer or comment. This helps us to hear what everyone has to say.

-Plagiarism is wrong, so don’t do it.

*I believe in all of my students and want each and everyone one of you to do well. As your educator I have many expectations for myself, but I also expect a lot from you as my student. One thing I want to make sure is that my classroom is a safe learning environment for everyone -- therefore any kind of name calling, or badgering of any kind will not be tolerated. Please treat everyone with RESPECT and kindness.*

*Thank you,*

*Ms. Dassow Guillory*