

10TH GRADE ENGLISH**

SYLLABUS 2025-26



ABOUT YOUR TEACHER

My name is Ms. Marsh. This is my ninth year teaching and my fifth year teaching tenth grade ELA. I graduated from SUNY Geneseo with my Bachelor's in English and from Canisius College with my Master's in the study of Differentiated Instruction. In my free time, I enjoy reading, crafting, hiking, going to concerts, watching The Office and playing volleyball.

HOW TO CONTACT

Email: kmarsh@genvalley.org

Classroom Phone: 585-268-7900 (ext. 1110)



MATERIALS

- **Pen or pencil**
- **a charged, school-issued iPad**
- **a school-issued iPad charger**
- **Any other essential materials will be provided by your teacher**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In 10th grade English you will be reviewing many themes. This English class will consist of American literature covering the 1500s to present day, along with selected studies from World Literature. Students will be required to make real-world connections and collaborate with group mates in order to attain skills they will use as adults. Recognizing that students learn in a variety of ways, various strategies will be used in the classroom to help meet the needs of each individual learner. Overall, students will develop skills in researching, questioning, presenting, reading, writing, and discussing films and texts.

TEXTS AND FILMS

- *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck (with film adaptation)
- *Animal Farm* by George Orwell (with film adaptation)
- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury (with film adaptation)
- Short stories including, but not limited to, "A Lamb to Slaughter" by Roald Dahl, "The Black Cat" by Edgar Allan Poe, and "Harrison Bergeron" by Kurt Vonnegut

KEY THEMES

- What defines who people are?
- How do stories shape who we are and how we see the world?
- Who has power in our society and why?
- Who has voice in society?
- What universal experiences connect all humans?

GRADING POLICY

Participation- 15%

- A participation grade is earned based on meeting GVCS learner behavior standards in these areas: attendance, active classroom participation, completing classwork/homework, and positive classroom behavior/attitudes.
- At the end of each week, you will receive a participation grade which reflects the total points you earned for a maximum of 25 points (5 points a day).
- In the case of an absence, you will be able to earn 4/5 participation points by asking for your absent classwork upon your return and then completing your absent work within 24 hours.
- Come to class with all of your materials. You will lose points for not coming to class prepared and will still be expected to participate.
- Active classroom participation looks like having your eyes on the person speaking, transitioning from one activity to another efficiently, raising your hand to answer or ask questions and following instructions

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ABSENT POLICY

If you are absent you are responsible for all missed work. Be sure to check TEAMS for classwork and due dates. It is your responsibility to complete any missing assignments within 24 hours of your return unless otherwise stated.

REDOS/CORRECTIONS

You will be given the chance to redo up to 3 assignments per quarter.

Regardless of the initial grade the student received, to qualify for an opportunity for mastery under this provision, the student must:

1. Have completed and submitted the original assessment, activity, or assignment by the due date
2. Have completed a Re-Do request form and had it approved

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

- Be respectful of your classmates and their viewpoints
- Arrive on time and quietly begin your warm-up
- Raise your hand to ask questions
- Signout for hall passes and bathroom passes
- We abide by all posted school rules. Please see your student handbook.

**this document is subject to change at the teacher's discretion

GRADING CATEGORIES (CONTINUED)

Classwork: 40%

- lesson activities will be regularly graded and are designed to be completed in class
- when a class activity is not finished in the teacher-allotted class time, it becomes your responsibility to finish as homework
- classroom activities evidence your level of participation to meet the stated lesson goal(s) and will be factored into your weekly participation grade

Homework: 25%

- homework is an excellent opportunity to learn more about a topic discussed
- and to practice the literacy skills taught in class.
- Your homework will be graded on:
 - Completion
 - Accuracy
 - Neatness
 - Grammar and spelling
 - And your ability to successfully define, discuss and evaluate material covered

Tests/Essays/Projects: 20%

- tests, essays, and projects require you to synthesize the big ideas of each unit and to demonstrate your ability to think on a critical level. They will be assigned towards the end of a unit to assess what standards-based skills and understandings you have gained.

LATE WORK POLICY

Much of the work that you will be doing is able to be completed during the scheduled class period. Managing your time so that you can complete your work or ask for help during that time is your responsibility.

- Missing work will be marked with a zero until it is turned in and will only be accepted 5 DAYS after the actual due date for 50% credit. If you are having trouble completing assignments by assigned dates, please reach out to your teacher a 10% deduction will be assessed if an assignment is turned in after the scheduled due date but on the same day that the assignment was due. In the case of a schedule absence, it is expected that any previously scheduled assignment(s) will be submitted before the absence to avoid a "late" submission.
- Classwork/homework missed due to an absence must be completed 1 day after your return to school (1 day for each day of absence). Work turned in after the 1 day absence allowance will be considered "late."