Welcome to Honors 10!

Honors 10 is a one-year course designed to expose students to an overview of major works of literature and non-fiction. This class will follow a thematic approach to the study of literature. Students will apply critical thinking through reading, speaking, viewing and listening skills. In addition, we will intertwine a variety of composition strategies including, but not limited to personal narratives, literary analysis, argumentative, creative, synthesis, and research. Honors 10 entails extensive reading, writing, and critical thinking; therefore, a successful student must have excellent attendance and show a serious commitment to the course. Our mission this year is to meet or exceed the standards for Honors English 10. You may look at an in-depth version of the English Language Arts Core Standards site at www.corestandards.org.

Grading Procedure: I use a point system for grading, so the weight of an assignment is built in. For example, a vocabulary quiz may be worth 20 points while a test could be worth 100 points. All assignments, including participation, reading, and writing are graded using pre-established criteria. For each assignment, an explanation or rubric with the assignment's evaluation criteria will be provided. Synergy is updated weekly and can be accessed through ParentVue or StudentVue. Semester grades are assigned a percentage of points on an accumulated basis:

- “A” = 100% - 90%
- “B” = 89% - 80%
- “C” = 79% - 70%
- “D” = 69% - 60%
- In-Proficient = 59% or below

Late Work, Absences, and Tardy Policy: In order to succeed in this class and life in general, preparedness and presence (whether you are actually physically here or not) is essential! If you must be absent, you are responsible for finding out what was missed in class by emailing me, from a classmate or you may schedule time with me outside of class time. Students have one day per excused absence to make up missed assignments. If the student has an unexcused absence or was not absent and work is late, he or she can turn the assignment in for 50% of the original grade. If the assignment is not turned in within the grading period, it is a zero. For each unexcused absence, the student will receive a referral to the office. For each tardy after the 6th tardy, the student will receive a referral to the office. Tardiness is determined by the bell. School and district rules can also be found in the Student Handbook.

Materials Needed:

- A spiral notebook or binder for the following:
  - Syllabus/Class expectations placed in the front
  - All Rubrics
  - Vocabulary
  - Annotations and Close Reading notes
  - Global Perspectives
  - Essay Drafts/Writing workshop
  - All handouts should be saved and three hole punched
- Graded essays should be kept in this folder the entire year. DO NOT THROW AWAY ANY ESSAYS!
• An independent book to read in class each day. You should be certain that the book you choose represents the content your family feels is appropriate for you. The teacher and parents reserve the right to approve and request another book.
• A pen or pencil.
• Your student id and a public library card
• You must join Google Classroom, Quill, and Quizlet using your APS id and password

Course Overview

Unit and Core Text:

- Unit One: Basic Training - All the Light We Cannot See
- Unit Two: Identity and Society – Black Boy and Jane Eyre
- Unit Three: Utopia/Dystopia - Fahrenheit 451
- Unit Four: Ethics – Lord of the Flies and Grapes of Wrath
- Unit Five: Cultures in Conflict – Things Fall Apart and A Raisin in the Sun
- Unit Six: The Importance of Language – The Tragedy of Julius Caesar

Within each unit we will explore several themes, write in a variety of formats, participate in direct instruction, whole class reading and activities, silent reading and individual activities. Such as:

Quill:

Students will need to create an account on www.quill.org. Each week students will be assigned a grammar activity and receive weekly points based on their progress.

Vocabulary:

Students will receive Context Vocabulary each week. Students will complete sentences using the word and meaning due each Friday. All words will be posted on www.quizlet.com under Mrs. Hood’s English Honors 10. Use Quizlet if you are absent and to help you study for the bi-monthly quizzes.

Global Perspectives:

In order to be a successful reader, writer, and productive member of society, it is important that all students keep current with issues and events around the world. Students will be given a list of appropriate resources and will be expected to choose one relevant article the first of each month to present to the class. The student must correctly cite the article using MLA, summarize the article, and write his or her own reaction to the issue.

Annotations:

In order to be a successful reader, students must close read and annotate every piece of literature and non-fiction being read academically. Students will be expected to take notes in their Springboard book, binder, and novel and will be given “Have You Read It” quizzes and activities on a weekly basis.

Writing:

Throughout the semester the students will read several different genres of literature and write essays and other forms of analysis in response as well as personal narratives, research, creative writing, argumentative writing, and synthesis.

Independent Reading Project:

Each student is expected to give read one novel each semester and create and present a project (rubrics and project options to follow) analyzing the major themes, symbols, and characters of the novel. The student may not present
any book that he or she has read prior to this semester. The purpose of this activity is to introduce interesting literature to peers, analyze literature that interests you, further study literature that will appear on future AP exams, and develop speech and presentation skills. Silent reading is a specific time set aside to prepare for Independent Reading Projects.

**Discipline Plan:**

**Expected Behavior (See Student Handbook for all rules and consequences):**

1. You will do only that which is helpful to your learning and the learning of others.
2. You will be in the room, not running, prepared for class by the time the bell rings.
3. You will be in your seat to be dismissed from class. You can leave when dismissed by the teacher, not when the bell rings. (See unexcused absence and tardy policy)
4. You will treat yourself and others with respect at all times. Be Nice!!! Always!
5. You will not wear a hat to class. You will comply with the school wide dress code.
6. Personal electronic devices can only be used in class for academic purposes and when signaled by the teacher.
7. Students may not listen to music during class. This is a professional and academic setting. Research provided to emphasize if needed.
8. No food or drink (except water) allowed in class. If you come into class TARDY with a breakfast burrito, Starbucks, or other corporate food/drink product, said product will be taken for the remainder of the class.
9. Backpacks must remain on the floor (per school rule) for the entirety of the class.
10. Papers are due at the beginning of the period! Do not ask to go print your paper. Papers must be emailed to me, shared on Google drive, or printed out by the start of class or the paper is considered late. If you are absent when a paper or project is due – it still needs to be turned in via email by the start of class.
11. Plagiarism and Cheating will not be tolerated and will result in immediate zeroes and other consequences.
12. Students must have a signed agenda hall pass to leave the classroom.
August 13, 2018

Dear Parents or Guardians:

This is the beginning of an exciting year for your child. My research, experience, and education have reaffirmed my commitment to literacy and the role of reading and writing in personal growth and learning.

This year in Honors 10, your child will be participating in reading and writing each day in the classroom. Our time is set up to provide each student with what he or she needs as a reader and as a writer. Our class will allow students time to read and write, to claim their own reading and writing, and to respond to questions and ideas in both reading and writing. We will also be doing some collaborative and whole-class projects this year.

Your child will always have an independent reading material to bring to class. You may want to help in this process by going to the library or bookstore, or by suggesting books for your child to read. You might also encourage your child to read each evening, provide a quiet time and place to read and write, let your child see you reading and writing, and talk to your child about his or her reading and writing. Your level of involvement depends on your time and willingness, but the possibilities are unlimited.

As your child’s teacher, I need your cooperation and support so that your child will work at his or her fullest potential, which is, I’m confident, our mutual goal for English Honors 10. Please review the syllabus with your child. If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions at any time this year please feel free to email me at rosemary.hood@aps.edu. I am looking forward to an exciting and successful year!

Sincerely,

Rosemary Hood
Please return to Mrs. Hood

Student’s Name___________________________     Class and Period: _______________________

The best way to reach me: ________________________________________________________________________

My child learns best when (use other side if necessary):
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

I am concerned about/want you to know:
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________________

I have received and read the course syllabus and letter for Mrs. Hood’s English 11 class. I have logged into ParentVue, visited Mrs. Hood’s website, www.quill.org, visited Mrs. Hood’s English Honors 10 on Quizlet.

Parent/Guardian signature: ______________________________________________   Date:___________________