

# Pre-AP English 10

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*“It may be unfair, but what happens in a few days, sometimes even a single day, can change the course of a whole lifetime.”*

– *The Kite Runner*

## General Course Objectives

The Pre-AP English 10 curriculum is designed as a multi-cultural exploration in which we will read literature from Middle Eastern, Asian, African American, European, Latino, and ancient cultures. Six major pieces of literature we will focus on are *The Kite Runner*, *A Lesson Before Dying*, *Night*, *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*, a multi-cultural novel of your choice, and a nonfiction book of your choice. We will also read many short stories, poems, articles, and plays from the textbook, and complete large-scale projects. Grammar study will occur occasionally in brief lessons and be focused upon in written and oral expression. Throughout the year, students will write creative and analytical responses to literature as well as a full-length research paper with citations from numerous sources.

## What’s Different?

Pre-AP English 10 covers the core content of English 10 but at a more rapid pace. The curriculum contains additional assignments such as reading *The Kite Runner*, writing a research paper, and other readings. Additionally, there are greater opportunities for creative expression and philosophical debate that go beyond the scope of the traditional English class. Requirements for this course are more rigorous, and students should expect to strive for personal growth in critical reading skills, writing proficiency, class discussion, speaking skills, and logical thinking. Those who remain in the program should develop the background and skills needed for enrolling in the Advanced Placement English course available in the junior year.

## Daily Required Materials

- **BOOKS:** Bring only the book that is needed for that lesson.
- **FOLDER WITH POCKETS**
- **NOTEBOOK**
- **PENCIL or PEN**
- **COMPLETED HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT (if applicable)**
- **iPad:** iPads will be used in class every day for school work! Make sure they are charged.

## Units of Study

You earn your grade based upon the quality of your work. The school grading scale will be used (100-90=A; 89-80=B; 79-70=C; 69-60=D; 59 and below=F). **NO CURVE WILL BE USED.** The course consists of several different units.

**Unit 1:** Middle Eastern Literature

**Unit 2:** African American Literature

**Unit 3:** Latino Literature

**Unit 4:** Multi-cultural Novel and Writing a Research Paper

**Unit 5:** Asian Literature

**Unit 6:** Holocaust Study

**Unit 7:** Ancient Cultural Study through Shakespeare

**Unit 8:** Nonfiction Study

### Classroom Behavior Expectations

The classroom is a **PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENT** thus students should act as such:

- **BE SAFE**- Maintain personal space, follow directions, and listen to staff.
- **BE RESPECTFUL**- Use appropriate language, be on time, and be polite.
- **BE ACCOUNTABLE**- Be prepared, do not lie, and do not cheat.
- **BE VICTORIOUS**- Do your best work and celebrate your own and others' academic success.
- **BE ENTHUSIASTIC**- Have a positive attitude and take ownership of your learning.

### Technology Usage Policy

- **YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO BE ON YOUR CELL PHONE IN MY CLASS UNLESS TECHNOLOGY IS PERMITTED AT THE TIME. CELL PHONES MUST BE IN YOUR BOOK BAGS OR PLACED ON THE WINDOWSILL OF MY ROOM, BUT YOU MAY NOT HAVE IT IN YOUR HANDS UNTIL PERMITTED.**
- **IN ORDER TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN MY CLASSROOM, YOU WILL NEED TO HAVE YOUR PHONE PUT AWAY IN ORDER TO DIRECT ALL ATTENTION TO THE MATERIAL BEING DISCUSSED.**

### Late Work and Makeup Work Policies

All assignments must be completed on time. Written homework is given rarely, so it will not be accepted late. Large-scale assignments will be accepted a day late for half credit. If you come to school late, leave early, or attend a field trip, you are in the building and are expected to deliver any work due that day to me **on that day**. Making up missed work is YOUR responsibility. If you're absent, you need to see me about making up missed assignments. As a general rule, you have the number of days you missed to make up the work. For instance, if you missed two days of school, you have two days to make up the work. If you missed three days, you have three days to make it up.

### English Department Academic Integrity Rules

- Accurately cite all sources
- Proofread your work to assure accuracy
- Accurately represent your sources
- Include a list of works cited for all compositions
- Read all assigned readings to assure accuracy
- Do not download a composition from the Internet
- Do not copy another person's work
- Do not make up quotes that are not in the text you have read
- Do not give your work to others
- Do not write a paper for one course and turn the same paper in for another course

### My Contact Information

- The best way to contact me is through email at: [awieclaw@efsd.net](mailto:awieclaw@efsd.net)
- You can also reach me by calling the school at 412-896-2360. The secretary can direct your call to my voicemail.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Alana Wieclaw  
Pre-AP English 10

RETURN THIS PAGE TO MRS. WIECLAW BY:  
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**  
Communication Sheet

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I believe communication between a teacher and parents/guardians is very important. I will contact you regarding your child's academic performance and behavior. I may contact you when your child needs help in a certain area as well as when your child is doing well, so please do not assume a call from me is to tell you "bad" news. If there is something outside of school that is affecting your child (illness, death of a loved one, etc...) that you think I should know about, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Please complete the following information.

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

\*E-mail is usually the quickest way for me to communicate with you. Please indicate if you do not check your email regularly.

You are welcome to contact me by e-mail – [awieclaw@efsd.net](mailto:awieclaw@efsd.net) or by calling the school at 412-896-2360. The secretary can direct your call to my voice mail.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Alana Wieclaw  
Pre-AP English 10

Please read the attached syllabus and sign below.

I have read and understand the syllabus and the classroom expectations.

\_\_\_\_\_ Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent's/Guardian's Signature