**10th Grade ELA: Literature and Composition**

Course Syllabus

Jasper County High School

**Teacher:  Mrs. Lianna Nix**

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Room:  106

*Welcome! This year in your English Language Arts classroom, you will be introduced to a wide variety of texts, media, and writing styles. The objective of this course is for you to become a more skilled reader, writer, and user of texts. With your help, we will tackle new and challenging ideas and processes; however, we will master these challenges with dedication, cooperation, and hard work. My hope is that you leave this class a more empowered learner and individual who is ready not only for higher levels of education, but for what’s to come: life. My promise to you is to give you my best efforts as your lead learner; I ask that you give your best efforts as well. Learning happens INSIDE the learner, so that means YOU control it.* ☺

**Course Description:**This course will provide you with many opportunities to build your literacy skills in an integrated manner, providing you a basis for building the habits of reading *closely* and writing *meaningfully* while building skill in applying the conventions of standard American English.  You will become familiar with a wide range of literary forms, themes, and cultures.  As a class and as individuals, we will analyze various works of literature through oral discussions and in written compositions.

**CCGPS Standards:**The Common Core Georgia Literacy Standards of Excellence for 10th Grade will be taught during this course.  These standards may be accessed at <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Frameworks/ELA-9-10-Grade-10-Literature-Composition-Standards.pdf>. Please take a few minutes to look over the expectations for the tenth grade Literature and Composition course.

**Grading Scale:                                               A            90 – 100    Excellent**

**B            80 – 89      Good**

**C            70 – 79        Fair/Passing**

**F            69 and below  Failing**

**Grading Area                                                  Part of Grade before End-of-Course Test/Exam**

Formative: Classwork /Daily Work/ Quizzes/Homework                   30%

Summative: Compositions / Projects /Tests/Finals                        60%

Work/Participation/Engagement 10%

**Required Materials:  *Come prepared every day with your interactive notebook, pencil(s) and any assigned books.***

* Interactive Literacy Notebook (graded every couple of weeks)-a speckled, bound composition book
* Regular, college-ruled notebook paper in some sort of binder/folder
* PENCILS and blue or black ink pens
* Recommended: USB Flash Drive

**Classroom Expectations: We will operate according to our four core values, which are**

* ***RESPECT/HONOR* (for others, items, learning time, etc.)**
* ***COMPASSION/CARING***
* ***INTEGRITY/HONESTY***
* ***PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY***

**Classroom Procedures**

* Be in the room on time and ready to work by the time the bell rings. There will be “warm-up” or “do now” work on the board for you when you walk in.  Take your seat and get started without delay.
* Have your materials organized and ready to use.
* Practice norms of civility when in class, in discussion, or in any learning activities.
* NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES in the class unless you are told to use them on a given day. Phones, mp3s, etc. will be taken and turned in to administration.
* No food or drinks in class, except for water in a clear container.

**Work Assigned via Google Classroom (or requiring internet access):** I will sometimes assign work to be completed online. If an internet-connected device is unavailable to you, you may access the work or assignment using a smartphone or a computer at the school or public library. In some cases, you may arrange with me to stay late to complete the work, or to demonstrate your learning in another way.

**Late Assignments:**  Major assignments such as essays and projects will be accepted one day late. Please note that following the second day, late work will only be accepted with a note or email from your parent or guardian stating that he/she is aware of the lateness of the work, and giving reason for the tardiness of its submission. I will deduct 15 points from the grade for its being late.

**Make-up Policy:**It is YOUR responsibility to make up missed assignments in case of an absence. If you are absent on a day an assignment is due, it is due immediately upon your return.  If the absence is excused, the assignment will lose no points. Students have as many days to make up a missing assignment as they are out of school on excused absences. I reserve the right to allow or disallow students to make up work for unexcused absences on a case-by-case basis.

**Redemption Policy:**Ifyou have a question about a grade, I encourage you to discuss this with me before or after school.  You may be allowed to redeem an assignment grade by redoing it or by completing a similar task; the goal is to help you understand more fully the reading and writing processes and the use of standard American English (grammar, usage, mechanics, and spelling conventions).

**Academic Honesty:** You are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty. Plagiarism occurs when a student uses papers in whole or part that are not their own words and ideas, or when a student utilizes ideas or information obtained from another source without giving credit to that source. If plagiarism or another act of academic dishonesty occurs, it will be dealt with in accordance with the academic misconduct policy as stated in the Jasper County Charter Schools Handbook.

**Parent Contact:** I am happy to discuss student concerns with parents or guardians! The best way to reach me is certainly via email (see above). I should respond within two working days. Conferences may be arranged this way, as well.