

Honors 10th Grade English

Mrs. Harker

Room U-36

alexandrah@provo.edu

MY TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

I believe that all students can learn and that students will get out of this class what they put into it. Students who work hard and pay attention in my class will have a much better chance of success than those who do not work hard or do not come to class. I care about reading, writing, and everything that I teach, but what is most important to me is who I teach. I care about your success because I care about you.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- **The book we are currently studying in class**
- **Silent reading book**
- **Writer's notebook**
- **A folder**
- **Writing utensil**

READING

All of our units involve reading. Much of the reading we do in class will be shorter works such as: non-fiction essays, articles, poems and short stories. However, we will cover at least 7 longer works over the entire school year. Those longer works will be:

- *Julius Caesar* by William Shakespeare
- *Much Ado About Nothing* by William Shakespeare
- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury
- *The Odyssey* by Homer
- *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley
- *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe
- *The Chosen* by Chaim Potok

All of these books contain some level of mature content. If at any time you feel uncomfortable reading a text I have assigned the class, please talk to me and I will provide an alternative reading.

You will also be required to read two books of your choice selected from the AP Reading List (one per semester). Further details about this assignment will be provided later.

THE CLASSROOM

Classroom library – These books are here for you to look at, hold, love, and most of all, READ. You may read these books in class during silent reading time or take them home to read after you have checked them out with me. PLEASE be gentle with the books and don't take them home unless you have checked them out from me first!

West Whiteboard – This whiteboard is your go-to place for our calendar, upcoming assignments that are due, and daily class objectives. Please check the board for information before asking me questions about what we are doing in class or upcoming deadlines.

THE POLICIES

Hall passes – I will give you two hall passes per term. If you choose to save these hall passes and not use them, you can turn these hall passes in for 5 points of extra credit each at the end of the term. You **MUST** have the original hall passes in order to receive the extra credit.

Tardies – I will take attendance at the beginning of class. If you come to class late, you will be marked tardy. If you arrive to class more than 15 minutes late on a due date for a major assignment, that assignment will be penalized by a 10% grade deduction.

Reading Points – At the beginning of class each day, we will have 10 minutes of silent reading. You will receive 3 participation points for being on time to class and reading during this time. Reading points will be entered every 3-4 weeks and can only be made up if you have an excused absence.

Absences – If you missed a day of my class, then it is your responsibility to obtain the work that you missed. Please talk to me about anything that you missed and I will quickly get you caught up. For every day that you were absent, you will have until the next class period to make up the work that you missed.

Late work – Since this is an advanced English course, I expect you to be responsible and accountable for your own assignments and actions. I will not accept any late work for this class. If you believe that your circumstances are a special case and may warrant an exception, please come and talk to me about it.

Seating chart – This seating chart is designed for me to be able to take attendance quickly and effectively. Please be sure to sit in your assigned seat so that we can keep our class running smoothly. If you have a problem with your seat, feel free to talk to me about it after class.

Grades – I will enter grades weekly and keep grades as up to date as I can. One of the best ways for you and your parents to check your grades is through Power School. Parents may also set up Power School to email them on a regular basis with updates on how their student is doing.

Plagiarism – Plagiarism is defined by Merriam Webster as stealing or passing off the ideas or words of another as one's own **or** using another's production without crediting the source. Plagiarism occurs most often when students copy the work of other students or copy words from another source (online or otherwise). **If a student plagiarizes an essay or other assignment, they will receive a 0 without an opportunity to redo it.**

CONTACT INFORMATION: ALEXANDRAH@PROVO.EDU

NOTE: I prefer to talk to my students face-to-face about their grades and concerns rather than over email. I am most available to talk to students after school and during consultation on Mondays. As a new mother who is still nursing, I will not be available during lunch to meet with students. If you do need to reach me by email, understand that

I primarily check my email when I am at school. Do not expect me to respond immediately every time that you email me.

Student Name: _____

Turn in this page to Mrs. Harker, the rest of the document is yours to keep.

PARENTS: If you are interested in receiving a weekly email every Monday morning from Mrs. Harker about upcoming lessons, reading assignments, and important deadlines, please include your email(s) below:

Email: _____

Email: _____

I have read and understood Mrs. Harker's Disclosure Document for Honors English 10, including the policies and classroom procedures. I understand that it is my student's responsibility to understand these policies and that my student's performance in this class is their responsibility.

Parent Signature: _____

I have read and understood Mrs. Harker's Disclosure Document for Honors English 10, including the policies and classroom procedures. I understand that it is my responsibility to understand these policies and that my performance in this class is my responsibility.

Student Signature: _____