*Sophomore English*

English 10A BMHS Block 1 2016

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| Ms. Percy  percy\_cg@mtnhomesd.org |

**Course Description**:

As a required course in Language Arts, this class will strive to acquaint students with the elements of language and how humans use visual and spoken elements to illustrate their character and communicate with others in the world. We will discover how literary texts are both in the realm of the beautiful (aesthetic objects intended to give us pleasure) and are carriers of ideology (rhetorical objects intended to persuade us). Students will be challenged to describe themselves and their world using a variety of media and develop a colorful vocabulary that expands their understanding of language as an art form.

**Course Goals**

Students who successfully complete this course should be able to demonstrate the skills and

knowledge listed below:

A basic understanding of language as an art form.

A familiarity with selected styles of language.

The ability to interpret literary works and discuss their significance.

The ability to analyze literature with attention to style and form as well as to content.

Self-awareness as a reader and as a writer. An understanding of the assumptions,

advantages, and limitations of one’s own approach to literature.

An understanding of important literary concepts and of the basic terminology used to

discuss poetry, prose, and drama.

An understanding of how literature might, or might not, be meaningful to us today.

**Course Requirements & Grading Distribution**:

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| Daily Participation & Attendance  Writing Essays | 25%  25% |
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| Journal Project | 25% |
| Grammar & Vocabulary Collection | 25% |
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**Explanation of Requirements**:

Students MUST participate and attempt ALL components of the class activities and projects in order to be eligible for completion of course credit.

Daily Participation: Students will be evaluated periodically on in class work, participation in discussions, and general attitude towards learning. These grades will be combined at the end of the block and will represent 25% of each student’s grade. Students are encouraged to attend all classes because some of the activities will depend on classroom participation. Points for attendance and points for participation will be discussed at the beginning of each block of instruction.

Writing Essays: Students will write informal and formal essays after exploring the elements of essay writing. These pieces will illustrate the different types of essay writing: expository, descriptive, narrative, and argumentative.

Journal Project: Students will create a physical or electronic book based on themselves and their life experiences. This project may be based on real or fictional accounts of events and will include illustrations and odd bits and pieces of detritus collected during the block.

Grammar & Vocabulary Collection: This project will involve interviewing people and collecting a variety of vocabulary words that are used frequently by the subject or that the student does not already know the meaning of. These words will be collected in a visual project, either physical or electronic and be presented to the class at the end of the block for feedback and evaluation. Students will also collect phrases and sentences from written and oral subjects that illustrate various pitfalls in the world of grammar. This project may be electronic or physical, depending on the student’s choice of media.

**Course Policies**

Class Attendance and Absences: Please refer to the Student Handbook for attendance and absence policies. If you are absent from school but still able to communicate electronically please do!

Electronic Devices: The use of cell phones, I-pads, ear-buds, MP3 players, etc. is prohibited during class. I may alter this policy at my whim, but otherwise I will confiscate any and all devices as detailed in the BMHS handbook.

Late Work: All work must be completed by the end of the block period. Students are expected to complete work as it is assigned, but they are responsible for completing work without the benefit of being nagged or harassed.

Conduct: All students are expected to adhere to the guidelines for classroom behavior and academic honesty included in the Bennett Mountain High School 2015-2016 Handbook. In addition to this, each class will develop an Essential Agreement that outlines your class members’ expectations for your daily conduct.

List of Documents:

* Syllabus
* Language Registers
* Passwords
* Pretest