

English 10, Mrs. Sommer

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

Course Description and Important Information

## **First, some helpful information for parents and guardians:**

### **\*\*\*\*Parent Portal!\*\*\*\***

#### **Attention Parents and Guardians! View your child's grades whenever you want!!**

If you did not create an account in the past, you are strongly encouraged to do so as soon as possible. Once approved, you will have access to your son's or daughter's grades any time you wish. As soon as tests and assignments are graded (and most homework the same day) I will post the information to the portal. This is a much easier way to keep track of your son's or daughter's grades, and you will not have to wait for me to call or email you back if you want to know grade information, or if an assignment was turned in. For more information and to create an account, go to [ntschoools.org](http://ntschoools.org) and on the high school's page there is a tab for "Parent Portal."

#### **Mrs. Sommer's Webpage:**

I do have my own teacher webpage (through the school district's website). To access it, click on the tab on the **high school's** web page for "Teacher Pages" and click on my name. I try to keep the information as up-to-date as possible, and post assignments and due dates on the calendar link.

#### **Communication:**

Beyond the use of Parent Portal and the teacher web page, if you need to contact me, the best and easiest way is through email. Please email me at [jsommer@ntschoools.org](mailto:jsommer@ntschoools.org), and I will get back to you as soon as possible. If it is an emergency, or you do not have email, you may leave me a voicemail at 807-3600 x1221. I will return your phone call as soon as possible.

#### **Remind:**

Join my Remind class. The name of this class is English 10 '17-'18 Mrs. Sommer, and the code to join is @7ee969. I won't send reminds very often, but will use it when necessary. I WILL NOT send a daily reminder of homework because it should be the student's responsibility to keep track of when assignments are due. In addition, remember assignment information is available on my teacher webpage.

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## **English 10 Course Description and Information:**

#### **Content:**

- Students will increase skills in reading comprehension, writing, speaking, and listening.
- Essays will be required on a regular basis.
- Regular vocabulary lists and quizzes
- Other activities include close reading, annotating, research skills, oral presentations, and grammar.

**Work:**

- **Essays, papers, and projects** are due on time! Ten percent of the grade will be deducted for each day that the assignment is late.
- All **homework** is due on time! One day late equals ½ credit, and two days late is a zero.
- Blue or black pen is to be used on all assignments unless otherwise specified.

**Grading:**

- A student's marking period average in this course will reflect performance on homework, essays, quizzes, tests, and a Benchmark Assessment (see below). Major Grades from tests, essays, and projects will be 50% of the average, Minor Grades from quizzes, homework assignments and other smaller assignments will be 30% of the average, and a Benchmark Assessment will be the other 20% of the average.
- In general, homework assignments will be worth 10 points each. Students will receive full credit for satisfactory work, half credit for incomplete or unsatisfactory effort, or a zero for no work. Any illegible work will be considered incomplete.

**Benchmark Assessment:**

- Students will complete a Benchmark Assessment that will resemble a portion of what they will be asked to do on the 11<sup>th</sup> grade Common Core Regents English Exam.
- They are scored according to grade level expectations, and count for 20% of the marking period average for the quarter in which they are taken.

**Behavior:**

- Mature behavior is expected of all students at all times.
- One warning will be given for inappropriate behavior. If the misbehavior continues, the student will receive teacher detention and/or be written up. Both include a phone call home.

**Supplies:**

- 3-ring binder with loose-leaf paper and five dividers (Sections in binder: Literature, Literary Terms, Writing/Tasks, Vocabulary, Skills)
- At least 2 blue or black pens
- A red pen for revising and editing
- A book for Independent Reading time (most Fridays)

**Expectations:**

- Be on time to class every day WITH all supplies and completed, legible homework. (3 lates equals teacher detention!)
- Do your best work and complete it in a timely manner.
- Keep an organized notebook.
- Treat people and property with respect.
- Ask for extra help if you need it!

(This is page 3 of a 3-page handout.)

### **Absences and Make-Up Work:**

- The day you return, refer to the index cards on the bulletin board. There is one per day. Locate the card(s) for the day(s) you were absent and copy the agenda and homework for that day. (You may take the card to your desk to copy, but put it back when you are finished.)
- Locate needed handouts in the “Extra Handout” binder. Take any you need (for absences only!).
- Copy any missed notes from a classmate or the classroom binder.
- Discuss make-up dates with Mrs. Sommer. In general, you will get one extra day per day absent to make up work.

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for taking the time to read and discuss the first two pages with your child. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me and I will return your call or email as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jennifer Sommer  
(716) 807-3600 x1221 (voicemail)  
jsommer@ntschoools.org

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Please sign on the appropriate line to indicate that both you and your parent/guardian **have read the above information, rules and responsibilities**, and tear this section off and return it to Mrs. Sommer by Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

In addition, if you would like to communicate via email (in non-emergency situations), please provide me with your email address below.

Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_