

English 10

Dear Students and Parents:

Welcome back to school. I am excited for the coming year and all that it holds. I also look forward to getting to know each of you.

AMES is a truly unique school that provides tremendous opportunities for students. I am extremely grateful for the chance to be a part of such an inclusive learning environment. I understand and feel the responsibility that comes with being part of this school. We as teachers and staff expect great things from our students, and it is only reasonable that you should expect the same from us. I will do my best to provide each student with challenging, motivating, and safe learning experiences. I realize that as we work together collaboratively we can accomplish great things. I ask parents to encourage students and to help them find ways to take responsibility for their own learning and progress.

I will provide students with calendars and course objectives each term, and SIS will be kept up to date and current. I will make efforts to keep in touch with you throughout the school year, and I hope that you contact me if any questions or concerns arise. To help me better keep in touch with you please take time to review the disclosure and return the contact information sheet sent home during the first week of class.

There are several ways that you can stay in touch with me

Phone: (801) 278-9460 ext. 158

E-mail: gbigelow@ames-slc.org

Website: amesenglish10.weebly.com



Feel free to contact me anytime with questions, comments, suggestions or concerns. I know with your help we are going to have a great year!

Sincerely,
Gary Bigelow, M.A.
Language Arts

English 10 Course Overview



Tenth grade language arts is a reading and writing intensive course designed to develop effective critical thinking strategies necessary for success in high school, college, and life. This course emphasizes the practice and study of informational and literary writing, and focuses in particular on argumentative writing. English 10 is a process driven course. We are constantly working towards mastery of skills and concepts in various areas. Each term students will receive a syllabus that outlines content emphasized during the term.

What to Bring to Class

Students will be working on computers a lot. It is helpful if students bring a flash drive to class. Students will often begin assignments in class that they will need to finish at home. Flash drives greatly facilitate this process.

Course Readings

Students will have access to a class copy of the texts we study. I encourage students if possible to have their own copy of these texts as it allows them to more actively engage in the reading process and annotate the work. All of these books are available at libraries and book stores. At times our class readings will deal with mature themes and content. Students may request an alternate text if the assigned reading makes them uncomfortable. Below is a list of the possible texts we will be studying.

The House on Mango Street (Sandra Cisneros)

A Long Way Gone (Ishmael Beah)

A Thousand Splendid Suns (Khaled Hosseini)

Night (Elie Wiesel)

Macbeth (William Shakespeare)

My Name is Asher Lev (Chaim Potok)

The Alchemist (Paulo Coelho)

