

Wachusett Regional High School

Course Name: English 10

Level: Honors, Academic Enrichment (AE), and Academic Foundations (AF)

Grade (s): 10

Course Description:

Students study literature from western and non-western cultures that illustrate themes common to both. Other major emphases include MCAS preparation; grammar, mechanics, and usage; literature: elements and genres, appreciation, comprehension, analysis; the writing process: composition, critiques, research papers, literary analysis, creative writings; critical thinking; vocabulary development.

Links to Student Expectations:

1. All students will develop skills to utilize technology to gather, to evaluate, to assimilate, and to present information.
2. All students will utilize critical thinking by using skills to identify and to provide resources to solve a problem.
3. All students will learn to communicate critically, persuasively, and personally in both oral and written expression.
4. All students will be able to make decisions and solve problems using logical processes (e.g., scientific method, induction, deduction, syllogism, etc.)
5. All students will demonstrate the use of creative and critical thinking skills in an area of the Fine Arts.
6. All students will develop skills to promote a sense of confidence in tackling the rigors of standardized tests such as the required MCAS and optional AP, SAT.

Interdisciplinary Connections:

- ✓ Cultural diversity
- ✓ Geography
- ✓ Film
- ✓ Art
- ✓ Historical background
- ✓ Music

Essential Concepts:

1. Students' ability to write effectively in a variety of styles is a necessary skill.
2. Students' ability to communicate effectively through verbal expression is a necessary skill.
3. Literature from different cultures broadens students' view and understanding of the world.
4. A deep appreciation of literature is gained through an understanding of specific genres, literary devices, and themes.

Wachusett Regional High School

Student Objectives:

1. Students will complete the WRHS Writing Standard.
2. Students will participate in large and small group discussions as well as develop and deliver individual oral presentations.
3. Students will read, research, and discuss literature from both western and non-western cultures.
4. Students will read and discuss literature in a variety of genres, with a focus on themes, style, and literary devices.

Suggestions for Instruction:

1. Students will work individually to develop voice in written expression.
2. Students will work in cooperative learning groups.
3. Students will use the technologies in the Media and Writing Centers both for research purposes and for word processing.
4. Students will enrich their knowledge of the literature through field trips and guest speakers.
5. Students will read a wide variety of genres of literature: poetry, plays, short stories, novels, non-fiction essays, memoirs, and persuasive essays:

Plays

- ✓ Raisin in the Sun - Lorraine Hansberry
- ✓ The Glass Menagerie - Tennessee Williams
- ✓ Othello - Shakespeare
- ✓ A Midsummer Night's Dream – Shakespeare
- ✓ Julius Caesar- Shakespeare
- ✓ Antigone – Sophocles

Short Stories

- ✓ Into the Widening World
- ✓ Nine Stories - J. D. Salinger
- ✓ Everything That Rises Must Converge - Flannery O'Connor

Novels

- ✓ Monkeys - Susan Minot
- ✓ Siddhartha - Herman Hesse
- ✓ Joy Luck Club - Amy Tan
- ✓ The Chocolate War - Robert Cormier
- ✓ Ethan Frome - Edith Wharton
- ✓ Illumination Night - Alice Hoffman
- ✓ Wuthering Heights - Emily Bronte
- ✓ Ironman - Chris Crutcher
- ✓ House on Mango Street - Sandra Cisneros
- ✓ Great Expectations - Charles Dickens
- ✓ Eyes of the Dragon - Stephen King
- ✓ If I Should Die - Han Nolan

Non-Fiction Essays

Poetry

Wachusett Regional High School

Suggestions for Assessment:

1. Successful completion of WRHS Writing Standard
2. Quizzes for close reading
3. Tests for analytical understanding
4. Essays for critical thinking
5. Oral presentations
6. Portfolio development and assessment
7. Self-reflection and evaluation

Curriculum:

Suggested Themes/ Units

- ✓ Family
- ✓ Heroes
- ✓ Responsibility
- ✓ Relationships
- ✓ Self
- ✓ Change
- ✓ Immigration

Writing

- ✓ Completion of WRHS Writing Standard
- ✓ MCAS preparation
- ✓ Grammar
- ✓ Writing Process

Lesson Extensions:

In English Honors

- ✓ To complete supplemental reading connected to themes, styles, and/or authors studied in class.

In all levels

- ✓ To encourage students to submit their writing to outside publications.
- ✓ To provide students with additional suggestions for reading.
- ✓ To encourage students to attend cultural performances, explore museums, and visit historic / literary sites.