

**Mr. David D. Smith**

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Where to find me during Student Access Time: **Day: Thursday**  
**Room: C224**

Best time to contact you: 11:50– 11:55 a.m. (Ask operator to direct you to the English Department Office.)

Course Title: **10<sup>th</sup> LA Gold**  
Course Number: 1212 (.5 credit)

Message Phone: Please use my cell phone at 993-7751

Course Website: <http://www.cvsd.org/university/classes/eng/dsmith/default.asp>

**Note:** Please review the website frequently as assignments and other course materials are constantly posted. Links on the site will allow you to be notified as changes are made to the same. The site also explains how students/parents may check grades from their home computers.

**Course Overview:** At the sophomore level, you must take two (2) trimesters of English. Both courses integrate writing, reading, speaking, and listening. Through the writing process, students refine and extend their composition and language skills. Within these two courses, we will study all phases and modes of writing and the writing process. In English Gold we will focus on comparison/contrast, critical evaluation, and literary analysis.

**Material List:** Although we will not be able to cover all of the following selections, novel study choices for this class may include: *Julius Caesar*, *Dr. Jeckyll and Mr. Hyde*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Frankenstein*, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *And Then There Were None*, *Murder on the Orient Express*, *Jane Eyre*, *Kim*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *The 5 People You Meet In Heaven*, *The Girls*, and *Holes*. **Please note that *Julius Caesar* will be taught.** Your signature at the bottom of this form indicates your approval and acceptance of these materials. If you disapprove of any one or more of these literary selections, you must contact the teacher within two (2) days of your receipt of this form and either propose and agree to an alternative literary selection or arrange to be transferred to an alternative class.

**Materials: 3-Ring Binder; paper & pen (pencil may not be used for essays) and access to a word processor are required for this course.**

**Grading Policy:**

**Grading Scale**

*Except as otherwise stated, you will receive a WASL based number grade on each assignment. Number grades will be converted to a letter/point scale corresponding to the standard district scale.*

**Entry Task**– *Caught 'Ya!* - 5% of Trimester Grade (25 points per week)

**Conventional Wisdom** – 5% of Trimester Grade (50 points per week)

\* Monday – Spelling and Vocabulary

\* Tuesday - Grammar Gut Grabbers

**Quizzes** – 20% of Trimester Grade

- \*Weekly Quizzes cover the week’s conventional wisdom activities and all prior week’s conventional wisdom tasks.
- \* Miscellaneous quizzes will also be graded under this section.

**Omnibuses** – 25% of Trimester Grade

Note: Omnibuses are due once a month on the Tuesday that matches your period i.e. period 1 omnibuses are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month. Omnibuses for period 2 are due on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month etc. You will receive two 100 point grades for each month’s omnibus. You will select one entry to be graded on an individual basis and the remainder of the omnibus will be graded as a whole. **All omnibus entries must be typed (single spaced in 12 point standard business font).** **You must also select one entry to be graded on an individual basis.** **That entry must be stapled to the front of your Omnibus. Please note that only the first entry will receive an individual grade. Therefore, be careful to select your best entry each week. Failure to type your entries will result in a half grade deduction.**

**Essays and Miscellaneous Assignments** – 25% of Trimester Grade

\* Assignments **must be in ink or typed in a professional business manner.** Essays and assignments which are written in pencil or are completed in an unprofessional manner (doodles, torn edges etc.) will be graded a ½ grade lower. Typed papers will be graded a ½ grade higher unless the paper was required to be typed (Note: Papers required to be typed, will not be accepted unless typed).

**Projects/Treatises/Tests** – 20% of Trimester Grade

All treatises and special written projects must be typed.

**Letter grades at University High School generally reflect mastery of skills as defined by state Grade Level Expectations and Essential Academic Learning Requirements.**

**Grades for this course will follow the adopted district high school grading scale:**

A	4.0	94 to 100%	Distinguished
A-	3.7	90 to <94%	
B+	3.3	87 to <90%	Proficient
B	3.0	84 to <87%	
B-	2.7	80 to <84%	
C+	2.3	77 to <80%	Apprentice
C	2.0	74 to <77%	
C-	1.7	70 to <74%	
D+	1.3	67 to <70%	Novice
D	1.0	60 to <67%	
F	0.0	<60%	
There will be no rounding between grade levels.			

**Policies for Make-up or Late Work**

Make up work for excused absences should be arranged with the teacher. Absent students are expected to **check the class website** to obtain the assignments and to obtain copies of class notes from fellow students.

Late work is **not accepted** unless, in a given situation, extenuating circumstances warrant an exception to the policy.

Teacher  
Comments:

**In-Class Grading**

I understand that some assignments will be graded in class by other students. I hereby waive any privacy concerns regarding the grading of my/my child's assignments in class.

**Cheating**

Cheating is **not tolerated!** Students who cheat will forfeit all grades on all assignments due the week that the cheating is discovered. Your signature at the bottom of this form indicates your approval and acceptance of this policy. If you disapprove of this policy, you must contact the teacher within two (2) days of your receipt of this form and either propose and agree to an equivalent alternative punishment for cheating or arrange to be transferred to an alternative class.

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**Student/Parent Acceptance**

By signing our names below, each of us accept the rules, procedures, and teaching materials stated in this syllabus. Any exceptions or concerns are noted on the bottom of this form. We understand that a copy of this form must be signed and returned to the teacher within two (2) days.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 200\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicable Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian