Downsville Central High, Downsville Central

A sample course syllabus from Downsville outlines the expectation that students will be engaged in class and expects students to develop their own writing skills and voice.

English 10 Syllabus
2012-2013——

"The American Dream & Cultural Perspectives in World Literature"

English class is a place to discover the delights and intricacies of literature and writing. Students will explore literary elements, styles, and structures as well as continue developing their own writing skills and voices.

This information, along with any mentioned supplemental materials, is posted on my website at  [www.dcseagles.org](http://www.dcseagles.org)

Among other topics, this year's 10th grade curriculum will focus on:
- short story and essay study and analysis
- poetry analysis
- focus on American documents
- the novel, *The Great Gatsby*, by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- the novella, *The House on Mango Street*, by Sandra Cisneros
- the Shakespearean drama, *Julius Caesar*
- the American drama, *Death of a Salesman*, by Arthur Miller
- writing skill workshops

**Expectations:** Students need to be active participants in all classroom activities and discussions. Discussion is an essential part of English class, and specific procedures are outlined for students to be sure this time is productive. Additionally, at times, portions of class time are allotted for students to work on and receive guided instruction on assignments, projects, and preparation for assessments. Therefore, student effort and contribution is essential.

**Specific Requirements:**

**Skill of the Week:** Each week, the daily class warm-up focuses on a different skill from categories like literary devices, vocabulary, conventions, and critical reading and writing. The students work to develop the skill all week, and on Friday they are quizzed on the skill. Thursday nights should always include studying for these assessments.

**Literature Circles:** In addition to class reading and activities, students are responsible to read two other books in a more independent, less teacher directed way. Fridays after the skill of the week quiz, students are given the rest of class to read the book, work on an analysis task about the book, or discuss certain aspects of the book with a small group of other students.