

COURSE CODE: 8th Grade English Language Arts

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1st Trimester-2019
Monday-Friday
Credit hours: 1 Trimester Credit

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The first trimester of 8th grade ELA will explore literature and informational texts within the framework of the following topical themes:

- Culture and Belonging
- The Thrill of Horror

PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITES: No prerequisites required.

OBJECTIVES: As a result of this course, you will be able to:

- Analyze various forms of literature and informational texts.
- Identify the techniques authors use to convey meaning.
- Utilize proper mechanics and grammar to write and communicate clearly for a variety of purposes.

INFORMATIONAL RESOURCES:

Google classroom will be your go to place for handouts and resources from class as well as your Study Sync account.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY: If a student is absent please contact the office to let us know.

Students who arrive at school after the first tardy bell should report to the main office to sign in.

Students are allowed nine (9) absences per class period during the semester.

Students who receive ten (10) absences in any class will lose credit unless cleared by the attendance office as extraordinary within five (5) days of the absence. Verbal communication must come from a parent/guardian within 48 hours of the absence to prevent truancy.

The following absences count against a student's total of nine (9) absences: In-School Suspension (I), Out of School Suspension (O), Truancy (R), Unverified (A), Verified (E), Unexcused (U)

MAKE-UP WORK

After an absence, it is the student's responsibility to communicate with the teacher for make-up work. They are to check Study Sync first for all make-up work. Students can also get in-class notes from their bell-ringer buddy or the classroom comp book. Students may get any make-up work from me during

VIKES, lunch, or by appointment after school. In order to run class time effectively, I do not discuss missing work during the class period.

Students have three (3) days to make up work for every one (1) day that they miss. After this time allotment, assignments will be docked points according to my late work policy. Students should write "absent" across the top of all make-up work.

Students who experience extended absences due to illness or family emergency can discuss time-extensions with me on a case-by-case basis.

TARDIES

Students are considered tardy if they are not in their assigned classrooms and beginning their bell-ringer when the tardy bell rings. Tardies accrue on a trimester basis. The tardy policy incorporates the following:

First Tardy -- Teacher notifies student

Second Tardy -- Teacher notifies student

Third Tardy -- Student assigned to designated detention

Fourth Tardy -- Student assigned after school detention.

Additional Tardies - Saturday School (9:00am-12:00pm) **

COMMUNICATION: If you have a question you can reach me by phone or email.

Skyward is where you will find the grades for students. (*Note: you can set Skyward up to email you progress reports and missing assignments so you don't have to go into Skyward to find out how you are doing

Progress reports will be emailed to parents on a regular basis. I will try to have all grades updated and in the gradebook no later than midnight on Sundays. I will also meet with students one-on-one, if needed to discuss how they are doing in class.

CELL PHONES, COMPUTERS, AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES: Cell phones should be in airplane mode during class. There will be times where I allow the use of cell phones during class, I will let the students know when this is appropriate. Please note that misuse of cell phones during class time could result in a visit to the office. **There is no texting during class!**

FOOD AND DRINK: A snack and/or drink are aloud in class as long as the students are respectful of others and equipment in the classroom (electronic items).

GRADING: Most assignment in my class are worth 10 points. These will be converted to letter grades as follows:

90-100% = A 80-89% = B 70 -79% = C 60-69% = D < 59% = F

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION: Some assignments will be turned in via hard copy in the turn in box and some assignments will be submitted electronically.

LATE WORK:

The maximum score you can earn on an assignment that is late is a 80%. In this class, **the consequence for missing work is to do the work.** Once an assignment is one week late, students will receive a note from me to come in at lunch time to complete missing work. They will continue coming in at lunch until all missing work is complete (or the trimester end, whichever comes first). Students with excessive late work will also receive the opportunity to make-up the work at Saturday school and/or after-school detention.

Students are allowed to turn in late work up to 2 weeks before the end of the unit for partial credit. If the assignment is not turned in during that allowed time period, the student will receive a zero (0) on the assignment.

RESUBMISSIONS:

I allow students to redo failed assignments for a passing grade. I also allow students to redo failed tests. To redo a test, students must complete a retake contract and schedule a time with me to retake the test. I do not allow retakes on open note tests or projects.

PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC OFFENSES: If a student is caught plagiarizing or cheating they will be required to do the assignment again from the beginning or complete an alternate assignment and parents will be notified. The redo of the assignment will be completed outside of school time. The incident will also be handled by the administration as a disciplinary issue that will be documented in Skyward. If the student chooses not to redo or complete the alternate assignment, they will receive a 0%.