

# EL Language Arts II & EL Language Development IV & MTSS Study Hall

**Mrs. Ryan**

**2025-2026**

The following syllabus contains important information about our class. Please pay close attention as you read through these details. Let's make this a fantastic year of learning and growth!

Contact Information:

Email: [aryan@west-fargo.k12.nd.us](mailto:aryan@west-fargo.k12.nd.us)

Classrooms: 105G & 107G & Media Center

Office: 106G

**1. West Fargo Public Schools Vision**

West Fargo Public Schools prepares all learners with the knowledge and skills to be contributing citizens in a rapidly changing world. We are dedicated to continuous improvement, engaging every student to become problem solvers and lifelong learners. Excellence is achieved through practices based in research, and by aligning all resources to support learning.

**2. Daily Student Materials**

Ipad, pencil, folder, a book for independent reading

**3. Schoology Information**

Students will be able to access class assignments and announcements on our course Schoology website. Assignments will include daily work, class projects, and respond to discussion questions. You will also be able to access daily lesson plans.

**4. Course Overview**

EL Language Arts courses are designed to build students' speaking, listening, writing, and reading skills in English as well as the content of Language Arts. All coursework is designed to meet North Dakota English Language Arts 9-12 Standards and WIDA standards.

**5. Course Goals**

- Use and understand the conventions of written English
- Develop a grade-level academic English vocabulary
- Understand how structure affects the message of writing and speech
- Develop the skills to communicate effectively
- Develop phonics skills to read and write in English
- Read, interpret, analyze, and compare a variety of texts
- Develop interpersonal skills through working in a variety of group formats
- Gain/practice the speaking, writing, reading, and listening skills and strategies necessary to succeed in high school, college, and in the work world through a variety of speech forms

**6. Behavior Expectations**

- Be respectful. Treat yourself, your classmates, the teacher and the school with respect.

- Show responsibility. Come to class on time, homework completed, ready with all materials and a positive attitude.
- Accept the challenge of rigor. Be an active learner even if the work is difficult. It's okay to not know; it's not okay to not try.
- Build relationships. We are a classroom community. We will struggle together and celebrate together. Be kind and helpful to each other.

**7. Cell Phones, Smart Watches, and all other personal devices capable of sending messages:**

- Learner cell phones, smart watches, and all other personal devices that can send and receive messages are OUT-OF-SIGHT and OUT-OF-USE from 8:25a until 3:35p.
- Devices CANNOT be kept on your person (in a pocket, etc.). They must, at a bare minimum, be kept in a CLOSED backpack pocket. Devices can also be left in your car, at home, etc.
- Devices CANNOT be utilized or checked during passing times, lunch time, or Open Campus if you chose to remain on campus.
- If you choose to leave the classroom to visit the nurse, go to the bathroom, etc., your backpack (with your phone inside) STAYS IN THE CLASSROOM.

**Consequences are as follows:**

- *First Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the student at the end of the student's day.
- *Second Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience, not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day.
- *Third Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience, not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, behavior plan assigned to the student.
- *Fourth Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience, not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, 1 day ISS.
- *Fifth Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience, not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, 1 day OSS.
- *Sixth Offense:* The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, transition to Virtual Program for the at least the remainder of the semester.

**8. Important Procedures**

• **Academic Honesty**

Plagiarism is wrong. This means you should not copy someone else's work or ideas and say they are yours. Show the same respect you would want for your own hard work. Do not copy and paste sentences from the internet, a textbook, or any other source. You must use your own words (this is called *paraphrasing*) or give credit to the source (this is called *citing*). Copying from another student or letting someone

copy from you is cheating. This will result in zero points for both students. This also includes using AI, like ChatGPT, Google Gemini, etc. If you are found to have cheated, your principal will be contacted. If the cheating continues, contact will be made with your guardians.

- **Late Work:**

Each class block you will be assigned work and the date on which it is due. I grade everything at the end of a block and will mark it missing if it has not been turned in if work time was given. All work is due by the end of the unit to receive credit. You will have 1 week to make up tests and need to be arranged with the teacher either during WIN or during a study hall. If it is not completed by 1 week after the test was given, you will not be able to make it up. Late work moves to the bottom of my grading and will not be graded immediately.

- **Missed Work/Makeup Work**

All coursework will be listed in the weekly folders in Schoology. Any paper assignments need to be handed in to the teacher and all electronic copies need to be turned in on Schoology. Please make arrangements for WIN times or the teachers prep to make up any quizzes, tests, or time to meet with the teacher if you have questions. It is your responsibility to look for missing work and complete it within 1 week of being assigned. If you need an extension, you need to contact me to set this up. All work is due by the end of the unit and will not be accepted after.

- **Excused Absences vs Unverified**

If you will need to be gone for any of my class blocks, you need to be marked Excused Absence in PowerSchool. Your guardian needs to communicate with the office to excuse you. If you are marked Unverified, you will not be able to gain credit from in class activities, assignments, or tests. Once you have verified your attendance with the office, please make arrangements to make up with with me during WIN or during a closed study hall you may have. All assignments will remain a 0 in the grade book until this has done but will not be allowed for credit after the end of the unit.

- **Tardiness**

A tardy is any situation where you arrive to class late or unprepared after the bell has rang without a valid pass. 5 unexcused tardies will result in a Pack Referral and detention. You will be marked Unverified if you arrive 20 minutes after the bell has rang.

- **Oppressive Language and Gestures**

The words we use are powerful. We have to choose them wisely and make sure they are not used to put anyone down, make anyone feel unwelcome, or to insult one another. Inappropriate language or gestures including swearing, name calling, or making fun other classmates will not be tolerated and will result in being sent to the office immediately along with a Pack Referral, detention, and meeting with a principal.

- **Start of Class**

You are expected to be in class before the second bell rings. You must use the bathroom in the previous class block during independent work time or during independent work time in my class. You will be marked tardy if you ask to use the restroom during passing and do not return before the bell rings. Not being in class on time, will result in missing points for the bell ringer-these points will not be able

to be made up. If you enter after the second bell rings, you will be marked tardy. Please enter quickly and quietly especially if you come in late. I will begin class on time so I can end class on time. Gather any materials you may need for our class and go directly to your seat. Begin the opening activity silently as soon as the bell rings. Make sure all technology including ipads, cell phones, and headphones/airpods are put away when the second bell rings. If you are not focused OR distract OR disrupt classmates during quiet activities or any part of our block together, you will be given a Pack Referral, asked to leave and see a principal to discuss classroom behavior. If you have a question, please raise your hand and ask the teacher. Please respect your time and everyone else's as it is short and important to be on task and focused.

- **End of Class**

The bell doesn't end class, the teacher does. You will be given permission to pack up your materials and belongings with 1 minute remaining in the block. You MUST remain seated until the teacher dismisses you and the bell has rang. If you borrowed any materials, RETURN them neatly and in the correct place. Neatly place any paper assignments in the front "Turn-In-Bin" before leaving the room.

- **Food and Drink**

Waterbottles and drinks with a closeable lid are allowed in the classroom. Any open containers are not allowed as they can spill. If drinks are a distraction for you or others, you will be asked to put it away and the option will be revoked. Snacks will be allowed on a case by case situation.

- **Class Participation**

Unless stated otherwise, ALWAYS raise your hand and wait to be called on. Track the speaker with your shoulders and your eyes. Keep your head up and do not put your head on your desk. These things are a sign of respect. When having a class discussion, build on the ideas of others, ask further questions, challenge and disagree with your peers, provide evidence for your response, etc. Participation is important and a part of your grade. An assignment may be given during class and due at the end of the same class block when appropriate time is given to complete the assignment. These assignments will be communicated and put on the board for you to know. These assignments will be graded as the bell rings and will not be able to be made up. Assignments like this will include (IXL, Schoology assignments, ReadWorks, Summit K12 assignments, etc.)

- **Leaving the Room**

If you need to leave the room for ANY reason, you need to use an eHall Pass. There are no passes allowed for the first 15 minutes and the last 15 minutes of class as a school rule. You will create a pass on your ipad to leave using the teacher who you are leaving and the location of where you are going. The teacher will either accept or deny the pass on their computer. Only one person will be allowed to use the bathroom at a time. Bathroom, waterfountain, and media center are limited to independent work time only. If the teacher is speaking, you will NOT be allowed to leave the room as you will miss the lesson that is being covered. If you are misusing the passes, you will not be allowed to use them in my classroom. If you are gone for more than 10 minutes you will lose your pass privilege from my class. If you are gone more than 20 minutes, you will be marked unverified and it will be reported to your principal. Passes to the school store will not be allowed at anytime. Passes can be denied by the teacher if there is missing work.

- **Materials for Class**

You must come to class with your folder, pencil/pen, ipad, and book. If you forget a pencil you can borrow one from me or share with a classmate. Pencils are available but **MUST** be returned. These may not leave the room. When needed, headphones will be available to borrow and **MUST** be returned.

- **Ipads**

Ipads need to come to school charged and ready to use. Ipads will be put away during lessons. I use all paper notes and do not use any electronic notes. Your ipad must be visible on my screen through classroom at all times. Bluetooth must be turned on. Failing to do this will result in your ipad being taken and sent to the office to talk to your principal. Continued misuse of ipads will result in communication with your principal and guardian.

- **YouTube**

YouTube is not allowed in my classroom. Choosing to be on YouTube will result in a 0 for the daily assignment that is due. You are here to learn, not watch videos on YouTube.

**9. Discipline Policy**

- **Level One-Friendly Reminder**

- **Level Two-Verbal Warning**

- **Level Three-Pack Referral and sent to a principal**

- **Other**-Students may be recommended for a Behavior Intervention Place, lose computer/ipad privileges or group work privileges, required to move seats, write an apology letter, etc.

**You MUST be on your best behavior.** There is a ZERO tolerance policy for disrespect and disruptive behavior in our classroom. Be fair to your classmates as this is a place of learning and they are working hard.

**Rewards include:**

- Shout-Outs
- Classroom celebrations
- Call home/note home to parent/guardian
- Ability to participate in classroom/school-wide activities
- Class-chosen seating arrangements
- Choosing the music we listen to during work times

**10. Expectations for Mrs. Ryan**

As your teacher, you should expect me to:

- Do all that I can to ensure your success in our class
- Treat you respectfully and fairly at all times
- Lecture for no more than 20 minutes at a time unless **ABSOLUTELY** necessary
- Return graded assignments within one week
- Learn from you and about you
- Not let you "slack off" and hold you to **HIGH** expectations because you are **THAT** good

**11. Grading Scale**

**90-100 (A)    80-89 (B)    70-79 (C)    60-69 (D)    50-59 (F)    49  
and below (I)**

Your grade will be determined by the following:

- In-class, objective/skill-driven assignments
- Quizzes, tests and projects
- Out-of-class assignments (unit reviews, worksheets, vocabulary pre-work, word lists, unfinished classroom work, assigned readings, etc.)

**Grades will be updated weekly online within 1 week of the assignment due date unless noted otherwise.**

**12. Extra Help**

- If you find you need extra support, please contact me and we will figure out a time to work together. Signing up for my WIN sessions is the first place you should look when trying to meet. Please do not interrupt a class I am teaching to ask about missing/late work/questions on assignments. **I AM WILLING TO HELP! PLEASE ASK QUESTIONS AND ADVOCATE FOR YOUR LEARNING!**

**This is OUR class: your opportunity to learn, ask questions, and challenge yourself. I encourage you to make the best of each day this year!**

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ryan

EL Language Arts Teacher