

LANGUAGE ARTS IV SYLLABUS

Ms. Nelson

COURSE INFORMATION

- Course Name: Language Arts IV
- Class Period: Period 1B and Period 2.3B
- Teacher: Ms. Nelson
- Room: 101 G-A
- Office Location: 106G
- Email: lcnelson@west-fargo.k12.nd.us

GRADING SCALE

A - 90-100%

B - 80-89%

C - 70-79%

D - 60-69%

F - 59% AND

LOWER

MS. NELSON'S SCHEDULE

Class Periods	A Days	B Days
Period 1	Prep	Language Arts IV 101 G-A
Advisory WIN	Advisory - 119E WIN - 101 G-A	
Period 2	PLC- 101 G-A	Language Arts IV 101 G-A
Period 3	EL MTSS Study Hall 103M	Closed Study Hall 109G
Period 4	Newcomer English 101G-A	EL Building Level Representative 106G

COURSE MATERIALS

- Pencil or Pen
- Class Folder: You may leave your folder in our class bin or keep track of it yourself.
- Class Notes/Handouts: Store all notes and handouts in your class folder.
- iPad: Keep your iPad in your backpack unless we are using iPads.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Language Arts IV is 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.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

UNITS OVERVIEW

Quarter 1 Units:

- Unit 1: Fiction Analysis - Short Stories
- Unit 2: Narrative Writing - Personal Narrative
- Unit 3: Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

Quarter 2 Units:

- Unit 4: Poetry and Figurative Language
- Unit 5: Informative Writing - Informal Presentation
- Unit 6: Historical Perspectives - Drama

Quarter 3 Units:

- Unit 7: Nonfiction Analysis
- Unit 8: Research Writing

Quarter 4 Units:

- Unit 9: Character Development Through Fiction - Novel Study
- Unit 10: Persuasive Writing - Argumentative Presentation

MS. NELSON'S POLICIES

LATE WORK POLICY

- All late work must be submitted by end of unit assessment.
- I will accept late work for full credit, but you must complete my late work form before I will grade it.
Furthermore, late work will not be graded immediately. If you turn in an assignment late, I can take up to the end of the quarter to grade it.
- Os will be entered in Infinite Campus for all missing work. The only way to remove the O is to turn in your assignment.

REDO POLICY

- Redos are not offered for most assignments.
- I will consider redos on a case-by-case basis for extenuating circumstances. Email me or talk to me before or after class if you are interested in redoing an assignment.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

- Please let the front office and your teachers know if you will be gone.
- You will not earn credit for a class if you miss 10 or more times.
- If you are gone, please check Schoology to see what you missed.
- If you are late for class, you will be marked Tardy.
- If you are more than 20 minutes late or gone longer than 20 minutes on a pass, you will be marked truant and will have to serve a detention hour to make up the time missed.
- Please see Student Handbook for additional information.

CELLPHONE POLICY

- Cellphones must be out-of-sight and out-of-use during school hours.
- You may NOT use your phone between classes and at lunch.
- You must go to the office and use their phone to call home. You may not take calls during class.
- Your backpack (with your phone in it) remains in the classroom when you go to the bathroom.
- If I see your phone, I will take it and bring to the office.

AIRPODS/HEADPHONE POLICY

- AirPods are only allowed during individual work time. You may not use them during group work or while I am teaching.
- You may use my headphones for assignments that require them or to listen to music on your iPad during individual work time.

FOOD/DRINK POLICY

- Drinks must have a spill-proof lid. Drinks without lids must be placed on the back table or side counter until the end of class.
- Small snacks are allowed as long as they are not distracting to others and do not make a mess.
- You must clean up after yourself. No crumbs, no wrappers. If you leave a mess, **EVEN ONCE**, you will lose your right to have snacks for the rest of the year.

SECURLYPASS POLICY

- You must use SecurlyPass to leave the room.
- Limit of 2 students out at a time.
- Hallpass privileges may be restricted if you do not use your passes appropriately.
- Store passes are not allowed and your pass must be for the location you set it as.
- Hallpasses will not be accepted in the first 15 or last 15 minutes of class.
- Your backpack **MUST** remain in class when you go to the bathroom.
- Bathroom passes should be about 5 minutes long. If your pass is over 10 minutes, your hallpass privileges may be restricted.

PLAGIARISM/AI POLICY

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.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

BEGINNING OF CLASS

- Make sure you have all your required class materials.
- By the time the bell rings, be in your assigned seat and begin working on your Bell Work assignment.

DURING CLASS: MS. NELSON TEACHING

- Do not talk over Ms. Nelson while she is teaching or over your classmates when they are sharing their work.
- Do not interrupt instruction to ask for a hallpass unless it is an emergency.
- Raise your hand if you have a question.
- If we are not using iPads, your iPad must be closed.
- If we are using iPads, you should only be in the app we are currently using.

DURING CLASS: INDIVIDUAL WORK

- You may listen to music on your iPad with headphones.
- AirPods **MUST** be connected to your iPad and not your phone.
- Do not talk to/distract other students around you.
- Raise your hand if you need help. If Ms. Nelson is assisting another student, please wait patiently for her to assist you.

DURING CLASS: PARTNER/GROUP WORK

- DO NOT USE AIRPODS/HEADPHONES!
- You may only talk to your partner or group members. Do not talk to other students.
- Make sure all group members are included.
- All members need to do their fair share of work.
- If Ms. Nelson is assisting another group, do not interrupt her. Wait patiently for your turn.

END OF CLASS

- Do not pack up early. Wait until the last 3 minutes of class to begin packing up your materials.
- Put away all materials in their correct locations.
- Make sure the area around and near your desk is clean.
- Push in your chair before you leave.
- Do not line up at the door. You must stay near your assigned area until the bell rings.

ASSESSMENTS

- You may not talk to other classmates during a test or quiz. This includes when you are finished and waiting for others to finish.
- Apple Classroom may be used to monitor Schoology quizzes/tests.
 - If you refuse to join, you may take a paper copy of the assessment instead, but you must put away all technology before you take the test.
- During paper quizzes/tests, iPads and other technology **MUST** be put away.
 - You will receive a 0 if you are caught using your phone and/or iPad.

PRESENTATIONS

- Be a respectful audience member. Do not talk/sleep/use your iPad while a classmate is presenting. Actively listen to the presenter and ask good follow-up questions.
- Part of your presentation grade is based on your behavior as an audience member. You will receive 10 points for being a respectful audience member.
 - Points will be deducted if you talk during others' presentations.
 - Points will be deducted if you attempt to use your iPad during a presentation.
 - Points will be deducted if you sleep during someone else's presentation.

PACKER PROCESS

MS. NELSON'S PACKER PROCESS



COMPASSION IN THIS CLASSROOM:

- Show compassion for your classmates, your teacher, and yourself.
- Use kind, school-appropriate language in the classroom.
- Always remember: It's okay to be mad but NEVER okay to be mean.
- Be respectful and considerate to all classroom members in your speech and actions.

COLLABORATION IN THIS CLASSROOM:

- Do your fair share in group projects.
- Participation is required. You must participate in all classroom activities.
- Follow Ms. Nelson's posted classroom procedures for beginning of class/end of class, instruction, individual work, group work, quizzes/tests, and presentations.

RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS CLASSROOM:

- Come to class on time with all required materials.
- Turn in your assignments in a timely manner.
- Fill out the late work form if you are turning in an assignment late.
- Regularly check your school email and our Schoology class page.
- Keep your work area neat and tidy. If you make a mess, pick up after yourself.
- Follow all school-wide and classroom policies outlined in the course syllabus.

RESILIENCE IN THIS CLASSROOM:

- Be patient with yourself and others.
- Mistakes are a normal part of the learning process. Do not make fun of others for making mistakes.
- Sign up for a WIN session if you need extra help with the class.
- Keep a positive mindset about your learning journey.