

Welcome to Eighth Grade English Language Arts 2021-2022!

Course Goals and Objectives:

As we commence this year of English Language Arts we will develop our skills in reading (both informational and fictional text), writing, grammar, speaking, and listening. We will address New Jersey's Student Learning Standards for English Language Arts. By the end of the school year, your students will be prepared to successfully continue an understanding and excitement for English Language Arts in high school.

Requirements:

Students are required to come to class prepared and on time every day. Students that misbehave during instructional time receive the following:

- Verbal warning
- Loss of Privileges (this could mean the student watches his/her peers use chrome books)
- Phone call /email to parents
- Serious violations will result in a student being written up and sent to the Administration, these violations could result in parental conferences.

Make-Up Work:

Each student will be able to hand in assignments late.

- Major assignments will lose ten percent per day; assignments that are turned in more than five days late will not be accepted.
- Classwork/Homework assignments will be accepted one day late for a reduced grade.

Extra Support:

If your child is struggling in English Language Arts, please have them talk to us during class or email. We can arrange for students to receive extra help after school.

Extra Credit:

Any extra credit assignments will be offered to all students in a class. There is no individual extra credit work for one student or group of students within a class. The purpose of extra credit is not to replace missing or late assignments, but to help diligent students push their grades to the next level.

*In accordance with the statutes that govern the delivery of special education, the curriculum, teaching strategies, and grading policies **may be adjusted at any time to accommodate the needs of individual students.** The student's IEP overrides any course expectation or requirement.*

Grading Category	Assessment Examples	Percentage	Average Frequency
Formal Assessment	Tests, Summative Assessments, Formal Writing Assignments (Final Drafts)	40	At least one formal writing assignment and two assessments per month
Informal Assessment	Quizzes, CommonLit Readings - Informational and Literary, Rough Drafts, Informal Writing Assignments, formative assessments	30	Approximately 1 Per Week
Informal Practice	Quickwrites, journal writing, sketches, exit tickets, in-class short assignments, formative assessments	20	5 Days Per Week
Class Participation	Preparedness in class; Bringing appropriate materials to class; Appropriate behavior in class; Participation in class discussions, group work, and all other tasks assigned in class; Respectful behavior toward fellow classmates	10	5 Days Per Week

Remember we are here to make sure that your child has a successful year. If you have any questions or concerns about the requirements, policies, or how your student is doing in class please contact me at any time.

Recommendations:

If you would like one of your ELA teachers to write you a recommendation for a high school program, please ask us with at least two weeks of notice and specific information about the school program that you are applying to. We may discuss the program with you to provide a more specific recommendation. Any recommendation requests must come from the students. Also, please ask before you send the form from the school.