

# Course Syllabus: English Language Arts

**Teacher:** Mr. Martinez

**Room Number:** 28

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**Phone Number:** (559) 253-6510

**Course Description:** This ELA class is designed to help students make meaning of complex texts and prepare them for rigorous textual analysis expected in high school and college courses. The skills students will acquire in ELA allow them to think critically and respond thoughtfully to important topics in all content areas, and in society. We will be studying literary and informational texts, film for comparison and analysis of key ideas. We will learn research-based reading, writing, speaking, and listening strategies that will help students develop literacy. We will engage with an interactive digital textbook to build skills in technology.

- **Academic Objective:** Students will learn high-order critical thinking skills, precision in reading and writing, analysis and evaluation skills, problem-solving skills, deeper conceptual understanding of literary and informational texts, expand academic vocabulary, and media literacy skills.
- **Student Behavior Plan:** Students that violate our online (e-learn) classroom norms and FUSD online (e-learn) rules will be held accountable in the following ways: 1.) Warning 2.) Assigned Afternoon Online Tutorial 3.) Parent Contact 4.) Referral to administration.
- **FUSD Rules:** 1.) Be on time. 2.) Be courteous, respectful, and cooperative. 3.) Follow the FUSD dress code and electronics policies. 4.) Come prepared with a hardworking, positive attitude. 5.) Don't be a bully, and don't tolerate bullying.
- **Grading Scale**

43%: Assessments (CFUs, Diagnostic Tests, Essays, Quizzes)

27%: Homework (Springboard, i-Ready)

30%: Warm-Ups/Participation/Attendance/Group Work

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100%-90%= A

89%-80%= B

79%-70%= C

69%-60%=D

59%-below=F

**\*Students with a D or below will be required to attend afternoon online tutorial and/or after-school online tutorial for academic intervention support.**

## **Classroom On-line (e-learn) Behavior:**

**The main purpose of establishing guidelines is to create a safe environment for all students to learn. Violating someone else's right to an education will not be tolerated.**

In addition to your academic grade, you will receive a grade for participation. The participation grade will be based on your character as a member of our online classroom, behavior in terms of duties, leadership obligations, class expectations, and based on the following criteria: Be present on time; Stay in class until the meeting ends; Be prepared (charged computer/materials/dressed appropriately); Have a positive attitude; Stay focused; Try your best; Be respectful.

- **Course Assessments: 2019-2020**

Quarter 1: Writing a Definition Essay

Quarter 2: Expository Essay; Argumentative Essay

Quarter 3: Presenting Voices of the Holocaust Presentation; Multimedia Campaign

Quarter 4: Literary Analysis of a Humorous Text; Perform Shakespearean Comedy

## **District Goals:**

- All students will excel in reading, writing, and math
- All students will engage in arts, activities, and athletics
- All students will demonstrate the character and competencies for workplace success
- All students will stay in school on target to graduate

## **Materials required (daily): List**

- Laptop, Internet connections, Supplies, Agenda, and a pencil. This is REQUIRED every day.

Late Work Policy—You will receive an extra day to do assignments for each day you were absent. All weekly agenda information and assignments will be available for you in the classroom. It is your responsibility to grab the missing work and agenda information when you return to school.

## **Effect of Absence on Grade**

- If a student's absence is excused under Education Code 48205, he/she shall be allowed to complete any missed assignment or test that be reasonably given, as determined by the teacher of that class. The student shall be given full credit for the assignment or test if he/she satisfactorily completes the assignment or test within a reasonable period of time. (Education Code 48205)
- Excused Absences – Absence from school shall be excused only for health reasons, family emergencies, and justifiable personal reasons, as permitted by law and Board policy and specified in administration regulations. (Education Code 48205)

**Language:** Profanity does not belong in the classroom. Failure to conduct yourself in an academic manner will result in class consequences.

## **Tardy Policy:**

Professional behavior includes punctuality. Students who are late to to class will automatically be assigned after lunch online tutoring if behavior becomes chronic.

# Parent – Student – Teacher Agreement Letter

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Hello Parents,

I look forward to getting to know you this year! I hope we can work as a team to help support your child's learning and academic growth (it truly takes a tribe to raise a child!). The start of this school year will definitely be a struggle as we learn to maneuver distance learning. I am always available to talk about any concerns you may have. My contact information is on the first page; feel free to email me. **If your student has a D or F in ELA they must attend mandatory afternoon tutoring until they earn a C or better.**

Best regards,

**Mr. Martinez**

**Scandinavian Middle School**

**By completing the grey fill-in-the-blank spaces with the correct information, you agree to all the terms and conditions of this syllabus.**

I \_\_\_\_\_ the parent of \_\_\_\_\_ have read and review this syllabus with my child and understand what the classroom expectations are for this class.

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Best way to contact parent (s): \_\_\_\_\_

I understand and agree to all the terms and conditions of this class.

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

and ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_