

English Language Arts Syllabus and Class Content

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Course Description	<p>This course is designed to engage Butler students in literature that will help them improve their reading and critical thinking skills.. We also work on different types of writing that will prepare you for high school and beyond. Your voice deserves to be heard!</p> <p>We cover a large genre of reading and writing to ensure students have a well-rounded and inclusive understanding of English Language Arts.</p> <p>Our reading and writing units work in sync. We will begin with setting literary dispositions and poetry writing; followed by contemporary fiction and literary essay; we will move on to critically reading informational text and learn research skills for our investigative journalism unit; next, we will move on to both reading and writing memoirs; and our year will finish with a dystopian reading unit with science fiction writing--always a student favorite!</p>
Texts and other Instructional Resources	<p>We will use a variety of class novels, book club choices, articles, short stories, video clips, and more. It is our goal that all students can “see themselves” in our stories, and are striving constantly to introduce diversity. We utilize the Teacher’s College/Lucy Caulkins curriculum for reading and writing.</p> <p>More resources and information will be shared with you on Remind (available online or through the app--be sure to sign up!)</p>
Grading Criteria	<p>Classwork: 25% Assessments (quizzes and tests): 25% Writing Assessments: 20% Participation/Effort: 20% Homework: 10%</p>
Make-up Work	<p>Following an absence (excused or unexcused) it is the student’s responsibility to obtain and complete makeup work. Makeup work is kept in a specially marked area of the room.</p> <p>Makeup work is due within two weeks of an absence, unless the situation determines otherwise..</p>
Extra Help	<p>Students who desire or require extra help need to reach out to me so we can figure out a time to meet.</p>

Course Expectations	<p>You can expect that I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a safe learning environment where students feel comfortable taking risks and making mistakes. • Listen and be flexible as needed. • Offer extra help to any student who requests it within a flexible time frame. • Establish clear expectations, requirements, rubrics, and due dates so that students know what to expect. • Use a variety of techniques, materials, authors, etc. in an effort to ensure all students feel included. • <i>Mess up!</i> ~\('ㄿ')_/~ I'm only human, and it happens sometimes. I will do my best to fix it and learn from my mistakes. <p>I can expect that you will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive on time, with the required materials. • Focus and pay attention to what we are doing in class. • Participate! (activities, discussion, projects, etc.) • Complete and hand in assignments on time. • TRY YOUR BEST! It's okay not to know, but it's not okay not to try.
Behavioral Expectations	<p>Students' behavior must be appropriate at all times, to ensure the safety and learning of all students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive to class on time. • Sit at your assigned seat. • Remove hats and hoods, and follow the school-approved dress code rules. • Quietly focus on the speaker. • Talk respectfully to all members of the class--staff and students alike. • Keep food and drinks (except water, in a clear plastic container) out of class. • Respect all class materials. • Use laptops in an appropriate manner.

Please remember, we are all working to ensure the success of each and every student.

I have read and understand the classroom expectations.

(Student's signature)

(Date)

(Guardian's signature)

(Date)