



Course Syllabus

English I 2017-18

Course Description:

This course explores a variety of literature, grammar, and composition. It includes short stories, non-fiction, drama, poetry, novels, and writing of narrative, persuasive, and expository essays. The purpose is to develop correct and effective uses of written and spoken language. This class will reinforce the mastery of skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and relating to one another.

This course introduces you to the theme of "coming of age." This year marks an important transition to your high school years. This year you will explore multiple "voices" from writers describing coming of age experiences. You will learn about style in both print and non-print texts, along with poetic voices and dramatic performance. You'll conclude the year by analyzing how writers communicate voices through social, cultural, geographical, and historical context.

Course Units:

Semester 1

Unit 2: Defining Style

Embedded Assessment 1: Writing a short story

Embedded Assessment 2: Writing a style analysis essay

Unit 1: Coming of Age

Embedded Assessment 2: Writing an Argumentative Essay

Semester 2

Unit 4: Exploring Poetic Voices

Embedded Assessment 1: Creating a Poetry Anthology

Unit 3: Coming of Age in Changing Times

Embedded Assessment 1: Historical Investigation and Presentation

Embedded Assessment 2: Writing a Passage Analysis

Required Materials:

SpringBoard English Language Arts Grade 9 (online version)

MacBook (charged)

Independent Reading Novel

Grading Policy:

This course uses **weighted grading** with the following categories:

- Tests
- Quizzes
- Projects
- Classwork
- Homework

Grading Scale

100-90%	A
89-80%	B
79-70%	C
69-60%	D
59% >	F

Missing work will NOT be given close to the end of IPR and end of semester.

Late work is to be submitted according to the English Department's policy of 1 week of grace after the previous IPR of 4 weeks. Work assigned BEFORE the previous IPR will not be given. This means submitting a semester of work the final week of class is not acceptable.

Learning Standards:

Semester 1

- Students will compare and contrast text structure and elements of a story based on author's choice.
- Given a prompt or argument, the students will cite textual evidence from a fiction and a non-fiction source to either support or refute an argument.
- Students will write arguments to support claims using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence drawing from literary and informational texts (e.g., including Shakespeare, mythology, and the Bible)
- Using a variety of phrases and clauses, students will construct the four types of sentences demonstrating appropriate use of the conventions of Standard English grammar and usage when speaking and/or writing.
- Students will determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in fiction and nonfiction text (including primary sources) in order to analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and mood.

Semester 2

- Students will compare and contrast text structure and elements of a story based on author's choice.
- Given a prompt or argument, the students will cite textual evidence from a fiction and a non-fiction source to either support or refute an argument.
- Students will write arguments to support claims using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence drawing from literary and informational texts (e.g., including Shakespeare, mythology, and the Bible)
- Using a variety of phrases and clauses, students will construct the four types of sentences demonstrating appropriate use of the conventions of Standard English grammar and usage when speaking and/or writing.
- Students will determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in fiction and nonfiction text (including primary sources) in order to analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and mood.

Behavior Expectations:

Please refer to DPS61 Handbook and Code of Conduct.

Original Work, Cheating, Plagiarism, and Paraphrasing Policy:

Please refer to DPS61 Handbook and Code of Conduct.

I have read and understand the attached syllabus and course guidelines for English I.

Student Name (print)

Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature