

**Manhattan High School - P35M @ Beacon High School**

**522 West 44<sup>th</sup> Street 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10036**

**English Language Arts Syllabus 2019-20**

**Course Name:** English 1/8

**Teacher:** Ms. Dotter

**Room:** 205

**Email:** [mdotter@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:mdotter@schools.nyc.gov)

**School Contact Number:** (212)-465-4390

**Manhattan High School Mission and Philosophy:**

The mission of Manhattan High School is to provide an appropriate education in the least restrictive environment based on a student's identified needs, strengths and interests. The school environment believes all students can learn regardless of his/her disability. Students are provided with all necessary resources to transition into less restrictive environments by improving their academic and social skills. All students will be provided with a rigorous education and supported by a caring community of educators and administrators. Our educators will prepare all students for post-secondary opportunities in college and/or in the workplace.

**Course Description:**

English 1/8 is a comprehensive English Language Arts course designed for students to gain an understanding of a complex set of literacy skills through the study of various genres, including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. Students will read closely in order to understand and enjoy complex works of literature; perform the critical thinking skills necessary to deepen their understanding of a text; and interpret, analyze, and evaluate narratives, poetry, and drama, by making connections to other texts, ideas, cultural perspectives, eras, personal events and situations. Students will read informational texts to build knowledge, experience, and broaden worldviews. Students will improve their vocabulary, grammar, spelling and writing skills through daily activities and classwork, projects and essays.

**Course Materials/Required Texts:** These materials are required in class each day. Being prepared is a part of your participation grade.

- 2 Folders
- Pen or Pencil
- Loose-leaf paper
- Fictional novel of student's choice for independent reading

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand that close reading is a strategy that helps them read with a focus in order to deepen comprehension and draw inferences from a text.
- Cite specific details from a text in order to support conclusions, connections, and analysis of the text.
- Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development.
- Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone).
- Write texts that develop the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.
- Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

### **Applicable Standards**

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.2](#)

Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.3](#)

Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.5](#)

Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it (e.g., parallel plots), and manipulate time (e.g., pacing, flashbacks) create such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise.

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.9-10.5](#)

Analyze in detail how an author's ideas or claims are developed and refined by particular sentences, paragraphs, or larger portions of a text (e.g., a section or chapter).

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.9-10.9](#)

Analyze seminal U.S. documents of historical and literary significance (e.g., Washington's

Farewell Address, the Gettysburg Address, Roosevelt's Four Freedoms speech, King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail"), including how they address related themes and concepts.

**Procedures and Expectations:**

- Students will attend class regularly and arrive on time.
- Students must be seated at their desk with the required materials at the beginning of class. Otherwise they will be marked tardy
- Students should begin the Do Now activity immediately.
- Students will participate in class discussions and respect the opinions of others. Speaking AND listening count as participation.
- All major written assignments/essays will be typed and must adhere to the essay format (MLA), unless otherwise specified.
- Students are not allowed to use cell phones while in class, unless otherwise stated. Therefore, if a student is seen using their cell phone for any reason other than classwork, it will negatively impact their grade.
- Students must have permission and a hall pass to leave the classroom. \*\*Only one student at a time can use the bathroom. If your student has any physical problems or side effects from medications, please discuss this with a counselor or the teacher.
- A Zero Tolerance Policy is enforced concerning cruelty, harassment, excessive teasing, discrimination, bullying, violence, and intimidation. Foul language, derogatory remarks, and disrespect toward classmates, teachers and school staff will not be tolerated.
- There is No Tolerance Policy for cheating on tests and quizzes, as well as plagiarism of written work.
- Students will respect the classroom property, and the property of others.
- Snacks and water are permitted in class, please be respectful and throw away any trash. \*\*However, when using laptops, no food or drinks will be allowed.

**Class Rules:**

1. Be on time.
2. Be prepared.
3. Be respectful. (One person speaks at a time. No foul/offensive language).
4. NO cell phone use in class.
5. Do your best.

**Course Grading:**

Requirements	Percentage
Classwork, Participation, & Behavior	40%
Tests & Quizzes	20%
Projects & Essays	30%
Homework	10%

\*\*Please note, every effort will be made to address all aspects of the syllabus. However, due to time constraints, student absences, and unforeseen circumstances there may be revisions to the syllabus as the school year progresses. The learning goals of each unit will be addressed, however, some pieces may be revised as necessary.

**Attendance Policy**

In case of absence, excused or otherwise, students are expected to complete any classwork or homework assignments they have missed in order to receive an academic grade without penalty. The assignments will all be available on Skedula. The student will receive a grade of "0" for the classwork assignments on the missed day until the student hands in the missing work. All missing work will have a maximum amount of 5 days given to complete any missing assignments. It is the student's responsibility to follow up with me to ensure he/she makes up any missing assignments.

I have read the syllabus for English Language Arts.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_