

# ***9<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts Syllabus***

**Fall 2021**

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**Room 302**

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## **About This Class**

This class will be centered on the major literary genres, namely nonfiction, drama, folktales, fiction, and poetry. As we read a variety of literature and reflect on current events around the world and articles over the course of the year, students will learn vocabulary, grammar, spelling, and writing styles specific to each genre and will practice those skills through projects and assignments each day. Upon completion of the course, students will have the language and writing skills they need in order to move forward in their education as competent, confident communicators. I also would like to have my students leave this course with more of a social justice lens as they analyze the world around them and use language arts to tell their stories and also interact with those of others.

## **Class Expectations**

**Classwork & Class Participation:** The majority of this class will be graded based on what happens in the classroom. So, naturally, attendance will hold a lot of weight, but isn't a weighted average with regards to the overall grade. Classroom Participation accounts for 35% of your grade at the end of the semester. As this class involves daily discussions, video reflections, and journal writing. Participation in these daily activities will account for this portion of your grade at the end of the semester. Disruptive behavior, skipping class, and/or refusal to be involved in classroom activities will result in loss of classroom credit on whatever day(s) that it occurs.

**Assignments:** Assignments will vary by unit and learning objective. There will be a blend of Group Assignments as well as independent assignments designed to assess their knowledge of the content we're covering in class.

**Projects, Essays, & Quizzes:** As we progress through different types of literature, students will be doing multiple types of projects and essays related to text analysis, themes, and literary concepts.

## Homework

Homework will usually be skill-building exercises that we've worked on in class that they can continue to practice and complete at home. This will account for 5% of your grade.

## Grading

5%	Homework
30%	Classwork
10%	Quizzes
35%	Class Participation
10%	Projects

## Materials

Students are all given Journals for daily writing reflections, Laptops are also available for certain assignments, when needed. Students are given binders and folders in order to keep track of their work and progress in the class. I will be using 'Minecraft Education' to assist in students' reading comprehension, understanding of themes, and story-writing development. I will also be utilizing the internet to pull from different articles, videos, and excerpts that students can connect to as we work on different skillsets.

## Learning Objectives

- Students will be able to compose complete sentences
- Students will be able to construct a complete paragraph
- Determine how specific incidents or moments in a story lead to its resolution
- Students will be able to challenge and build on others' ideas using text evidence in academic discussion
- Students will be able to make inferences about why they specific evidence from text is important to a character's development.
- Students will recall topics from earlier units and reflect on how it has impacted their perception of their own identity and character development.

