Roy C. Ketcham High School
9th Grade English Language Arts
Ms. Bardes & Mrs. O'Leary
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2023 - 2024

Welcome! It is a joy to have you here.

Course Description:

Over the course of the year, students will develop their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills in order to prepare them for the rest of their academic careers. As a class, we will focus on learning to think creatively *and* critically. This is done by consistently challenging ourselves, each other, and the literature we read and write about. Participation and communication is of the utmost importance in this class - Both student participation and communication is crucial to a student's success. All students deserve a chance to be heard, and to have a chance to listen.

Course Expectations:

Respect yourself. You deserve to feel safe and comfortable.

Respect your peers. They deserve to feel safe and comfortable.

Respect the classroom. This classroom is our temporary home!

Be present, and in the moment, put all phones away, and be prepared to collaborate as

Be present, and in the moment- put all phones away, and be prepared to collaborate and communicate.

Activities and Projects:

Students will complete reading assignments, strengthen their writing and presentation skills, and learn and practice grammatical concepts.

Sample Types of Writing Assignments and Projects:

- Analysis Essays
- Journal Writing
- Research Papers
- Argumentative Essays
- Creative Writing
- Oral Presentations

Independent Reading:

You are required to have a book of your choice with you each day. We will be spending the first ten minutes of each period reading these independent reading books.

 Each quarter, we will have days where we will go to the school's library as a class. This is where you can find your books! As an additional resource, there are multiple ways to find both free and paid ebooks.

Required Materials for Class:

English Notebook (any type)

District-assigned Chromebook & charger

Pens and/or Pencils

Extra Help:

If for any reason you need to reach out to us, please do not hesitate! When we are not teaching, we can be contacted via email, phone, or through Google Classroom. We are also more than happy to set up virtual or in-person extra help after school.

Grading Procedures:

Every assignment is given a point value. At the end of the marking period, the number of points earned will be compared to the number of points that can be possibly earned to arrive at a numerical average. Major projects and assignments will have a late policy discussed at the beginning of the assessment.

Classwork/Homework	1 point per question
Notebook Practice	10 points per quarter
Major Writing/Research Assignments	20 - 40 points each (dependant on project)
Journal Responses	10 - 15 points each (dependant on quarter)
Independent Reading	50 points per quarter

Thank you! We look forward to a great year together!

(Student - Printed name)	(Student - Signature)
(Parent/Guardian - Printed name)	(Parent/Guardian - Signature)