



7th Grade English Language Arts AIS

Mrs. O'Neill
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Course Description

This program has been designed to help you achieve greater success in ELA. This class provides you with an additional opportunity to work on applied skills & strategies that will strengthen your critical thinking & problem-solving abilities. As a new junior high student, you may have difficulty becoming accustomed to the pace of the core ELA class & higher-level thinking that is required.

This class will address the skills & concepts learned in the core English Language Arts class, but not necessarily at the same time or in the same order. The AIS setting allows for concepts & skills to be taught in a variety of ways with more flexibility, one-on-one assistance & collaboration with peers from all four 7th grade teams. With the help of the AIS class, I promise you will feel more comfortable & confident in your core classes.

Required Supplies

- Composition Notebook (not spiral please)
- Pocket Folder
- Blue or Black Pens
- Pencils
- Post It Notes
- Package of Pencils (to be donated to class)
- Tissues (to be donated to class)

Independent Reading

In your ELA class you will ALWAYS be reading an independent reading book of your choice. This book should be carried with you from class to class each day. Yes, that means you should have it in this class too! You will be spending a minimum of 50 minutes a week reading this book IN your ELA class and a minimum of 40 minutes a week reading OUTSIDE of class. I will give you many opportunities to complete those 40 minutes of independent reading in this class each week!

Assessments, Grading, & Homework

You will be evaluated on a variety of levels, both formal & informal. Students will be assessed on specified requirements, quality & presentation of each classroom task that is assigned. Generally, you will not receive homework from AIS other than to read each night. However, if classwork is not completed within the expected time frame due to unproductive behavior, the classwork will then become homework.

Daily Procedures

Each day what we do in class will be different, but the schedule of the period will remain the same.

Do Now: Every day when you enter the room a Do Now will be posted on the board. You are expected to enter the room, complete the Do Now, & then sit quietly & wait for instructions.

Mini-Lesson: Most days I will spend the next 5-10 minutes teaching a lesson on the skill, concept, or topic you will be focusing on that day.

Class Work: During this time you will complete a task (most often using your independent reading book) based on the lesson taught that day.

Conferencing: While you are doing classwork I will be conferencing with students one on one or in small groups to help improve your reading & writing skills.

Wrap Up: To end the period we will come back together as a group and spend 1-3 minutes reviewing the material covered during the period or clearing up any confusion you may have.

If You Are Absent

If you are absent it is up to you to read over the lesson that will be posted in Google Classroom and complete the assignment for the day **ON YOUR OWN**. If you have any questions you can email me and I will get back to you before the day is over.

Behavior

All students are expected to be both physically and mentally prepared for class (be it online or in person). In order to make ELA a fun and successful learning environment, students need to follow the following rules:

- RESPECT
- STOP, COLLABORATE, & LISTEN
- DON'T STOP BELIEVING
- ARE YOU READY FOR IT?
- WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

If you do not follow these rules, you may receive a verbal warning, a phone call home, or a written referral to the assistant principal.

Homework

Review this Course Contract with your parent(s)/guardian(s) and email me with any questions you may have.

"You get what you give. What you put into things is what you get out of them."

-Jennifer Lopez

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____