English Language Arts 7
Course Overview and Syllabus

Course Number: ELA3007 IC  Grade level: 7
Prerequisite Courses: None  Credits: 1.0

Course Description

Students grow as readers, writers, and thinkers in this middle-school course. With engaging literary and informational texts, students learn to think critically, analyze an author’s language, and cite evidence to support ideas. Students complete an in-depth study of novel excerpts, short stories, poetry, and nonfiction. Explicit modeling and ample opportunities for practice help students sharpen their vocabulary, grammar, and listening skills. Students also respond routinely to texts they have read. In extensive process-based writing lessons, students write topical essays in narrative, informative, analytical, and argumentative formats. In this full-year course, students develop a mastery of reading, writing, and language arts skills.

Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:

- Read complex texts at grade level.
- Understand and analyze the structure and elements of literature from various genres.
- Increase academic and domain-specific vocabulary.
- Use text evidence to analyze, infer, and synthesize ideas.
- Engage in routine writing in response to texts read and analyzed.
- Use the writing process to complete a variety of essay-writing assignments.
- Develop research skills to access, interpret, and apply information from several sources.
- Gain the tools for speaking and listening in discussions and presentations.
- Learn a variety of real-world and digital communication skills.

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks
- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning in each lesson
- Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams
Communication

You are encouraged to communicate regularly with the school support staff through discussions, e-mail and online chat. We will regularly post system announcements. Instructors and academic success coaches are available during normal school hours to provide on-demand support.

Grading Policy

You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Category</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quiz</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional</td>
<td>0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>5%</td>
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Scope and Sequence

When you log into the course management system, you can view the entire course map—an interactive scope and sequence of all topics you will study. There are 12 units of study grouped by the quarterly themes of Identity, Perseverance, Community, and Heroism.

Unit 1: Expectations
Unit 2: Exploring Who We Are
Unit 3: Heritage
Unit 4: Focusing on an Objective
Unit 5: Pursuing the Dream
Unit 6: Overcoming the Odds

Unit 7: Neighbors
Unit 8: Freedom Fighters
Unit 9: Visions of the Past and Present
Unit 10: Heroism
Unit 11: Battling Adversity
Unit 12: Looking Out for Others