Course Description

Welcome to English Language Arts 9th grade! In this course students will focus on gaining proficiency in five major areas: Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening, and Language. Our curriculum is based on the 9th grade English Language Arts Utah State Standards with an emphasis on analysis in all its forms.

Students will be further challenged in the classroom to step outside their comfort zones as we explore a wide range of opinions, ideas, and topics. They are encouraged to diversify their perspectives through a variety of assignments and activities. The goal is to expand their worldviews and develop critical thinking skills as they prepare for their careers and/or post-secondary academic pursuits.

Grade Scale

As 9th grade English Language Arts teachers, final grades are based on 80% assessment scores and 20% assignment scores. We use a 1-4 Proficiency Scale to grade all assignments and assessments. This scale is broken down the following way:

4 - Exceeds Expectations (Mastery)
3 - Meets Expectations (Proficient)
2 - Approaching Expectations
1 - Does Not Meet Expectations
0 - Did Not Attempt (Missing)

To see how this Proficiency Scale equates to a traditional letter grade see the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If you see this percent in Skyward</th>
<th>This is the letter grade</th>
<th>This is the traditional percentage range</th>
<th>This is the proficiency grade range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>92 - 100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>93 - 100</td>
<td>3.75 - 4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86 – 91.9</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 – 92</td>
<td>3.50 – 3.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79 – 85.9</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 – 89</td>
<td>3.25 – 3.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73 – 78.9</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 – 86</td>
<td>3.00 – 3.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67 – 72.9</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 – 82</td>
<td>2.75 – 2.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 – 66.9</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77 – 79</td>
<td>2.50 – 2.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48 – 60.9</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>73 – 76</td>
<td>2.00 – 2.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42 – 47.9</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70 – 72</td>
<td>1.75 – 1.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 – 41.9</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67 – 69</td>
<td>1.50 – 1.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 – 35.9</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>63 – 66</td>
<td>1.25 – 1.49</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 – 28.9</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60 – 62</td>
<td>1.00 – 1.24</td>
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<td>0 – 22.9</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0 - 59</td>
<td>0.00 – 0.99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Late Work/ Retake Policy

Students will be permitted to turn in late or missing work throughout a unit of study without affecting their grade for that assessment or assignment. In 9th grade, English units of study are one quarter long.

Students are still expected to turn in work on the dates assigned by their teacher and not wait until the end of the unit to turn in late or missing work.

If a student is unprepared on the day an assessment is due, they can turn in that work on a later date without penalty, but may forfeit the opportunity to revise or resubmit assessments as a result of not being prepared on the original due date. Failure to complete assignments as they are assigned may result in a student being unprepared or unsuccessful on quizzes, or class activities.

Students are responsible for turning work in on time in order to benefit from policies that allow them to revise or improve their work during each unit. Students may take multiple opportunities to rework and redo assessments and assignments in order to improve their grade. Because of this, no extra credit is offered as students will receive credit only for the assigned work they complete and for the work they redo.

Before the end of each quarter, the teacher will establish final due dates for all work in order to give themselves time to finalize grades. Students will not be allowed to turn in work after those dates.

As with life, cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and may result in a failing grade.

With Love,

Ms. Barr, Mr. Theel and Ms. Melini
Course Objectives

The purpose of this course, is to help student’s read well both in a school setting and life in its entirety. Reading is something we will all need in adulthood, no matter our future plans. Whether it be graduate school or buying a tank of gas, we must all read adequately to function.

Class Materials

1. Pen and pencil
2. Book from home to read each class period
3. Paper to complete assignments in class

Teacher Office Hours

Mr. Theel is happy to meet with any students daily, from 1:10 to 3:00 each school day in his room, B204.

Re-Takes and/or Late Work

Re-takes are allowed in this class. Re-takes must be completed in the timeframe Mr. Theel Provides for each attempt. If there are extenuating circumstances, they will of course be accommodated.

Class Expectations

Precision requests are used in Mr. Theel’s class. Students will be asked to “please” stop doing something. 10 seconds later, they will “need” to stop if they have not complied. On the third request after another 10 seconds, students will lose daily points and free time at the end of the class period.

Policies and Procedures

Attendance and participation are vital to success in this class. If students attend and participate, they will do well in this class, as they will be able to re-take what they do not do succeed on, as long as they are showing effort.
Late: If you are late, you are responsible for touching base with Mr. Theel to get missed materials and you may also lose participation points, depending on the reason for lateness.

Absent: You are responsible for making up the work you miss and finding out what must be completed from Mr. Theel. Take initiative in what you have missed and you will be provided with the opportunity to complete said materials.

Electronics: Phones may be used to listen to music while reading independently. Otherwise, they need to be out of sight and not used.

Grading

A 94-100%
A- 90-93%
B+ 86-89%
B 83-85%
B- 80-82%
C+ 76-79%
C 73-75%
C- 70-72%
D+ 66-69%
D 63-65%
D- 60-62%
F 50-59%

*All work can be re-done one time, if the student would like to improve their grade.*