

2023-2024 ELA Syllabus

Ms. Bev Myer

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Course Objective:

By the end of the course, students should demonstrate growth according to their grade level of SD ELA Content Standards. These grade-specific standards are vertically aligned throughout 7th – 12th grade standards and, together, they define the skills for understanding what students need to be good communicators.

Course Description:

Units of study for ELA include reading literature, reading informational texts, writing, vocabulary, and speaking/listening. A full list of standards can be found at the front of student textbooks or at <https://doe.sd.gov/contentstandards/ELA.aspx>.

ELA students will read, independently, at least one book per quarter. Reading progress will be gauged by weekly, individual conferences with the teacher and logged in the student's journal. The final report of the book will be done by choosing from the Book Report Choice Board located on my website. Junior and senior students will write at least one full-length reflection book report by the second and fourth quarter that utilizes planning, writing, revising, editing, proofreading, and typing of a final draft in MLA format.

Tentative lesson plans and year-long planning guides are located on my class website.

Assigned Texts/Resources:

- Savvas My Perspectives Literature consumable text/workbook – to be brought to class, daily.
 - The textbook is available online. Access information will be provided to each student during the first few days of class but most work will be paper based.
 - Various readings and pieces of literature (including, but not limited to novels, short stories, poems, and scholarly articles).
 - *No Red Ink* online grammar/writing program

Required Materials (Students will be provided with these materials. If they prefer a different style, they may provide their own except for the journal.)

- Notebook – for journaling, vocabulary, and literary elements
- Pencils, pens, highlighters
- Markers, crayons, colored pencils
- Sticky notes
- Page flags
- Computer - all students need a charged laptop daily. Always have your computer charger.

Grading System, to be recorded in Infinite Campus

- All work will be on a 100-point scale including summative assessments (tests, papers, projects, presentations, at least one **Student Led Parent/Teacher Conference**, etc.) and formative assessments (daily work, homework, quizzes, participation, etc.). Students will be completing end of semester reading journey reflections and writing samples reflections.

Evidence of Learning - Online Student Portfolio

Students will have a personal website that can be accessed at least by our tech teacher and me. The purpose of this is to house evidence of learning such as books read, writing samples, resume, letter of introduction, as

well as awards, pictures, etc. If a student has rationale not to have an online presence (remember, this webpage does not need to be public) the student may choose to complete a paper portfolio.

Absentee & Tardy Policy: See Student Handbook for more details. You must be in the classroom by the 2nd bell or you are tardy.

Student Work

Redo/Retake Procedure: Students who receive a grade of 69 or below on a summative assessment will be allowed one opportunity to redo/retake the assessment only after remediation or re-teaching takes place. Teacher has the discretion to re-administer any assessment.

Make Up Work: Students are responsible for making up any work missed during their absences from school. Students will confer with the teacher regarding what is due, receive instruction missed, and when the assignment is due. Handouts or worksheets will be in your classes bin but most items will be located in Google Classroom.

Late Work: I accept late work for partial credit – additional 20% off within 5 days and 50% after 5 days. Any late work credit will end at quarter breaks.

Cheating: Cheating on any type of assignment will result in a zero, parent contact, and an administrative referral. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, the following infractions: (a) copying off of someone's paper, whether in or out of class, (b) sharing assessment questions or answers with other students, (c) sharing your work with other students, (d) using materials from other sources such as books, encyclopedias, or the Internet when the assignment is expected to be the original work of the student, (e) any kind of plagiarism i.e. including the use of another source without properly citing it or copying and pasting from the internet. Copying and pasting answers is strictly forbidden.

Note PBIS rules as posted throughout the school, in my classroom, and on my website.

Our class period is 50 minutes. Do not impede the learning of others as our time together is brief. Thus, our ELA class will be tentatively chunked into the following increments:

- Bell Ringer
- Independent Reading
- Content
- Exit Ticket

→ Entering Class

- Enter class calmly and quietly.
- Read the daily work board for the day's instruction.
- Put your computer at your assigned space and start it. While it's loading get your book and journal to your space.
- Next, begin your **Bell Ringer** which will be the *NoRedInk* site as linked in Google Classroom.

→ During Class

- If you need to use the restroom, request it, sign out, and take the designated lanyard. Only one person can be out of the room at a time for any reason.
 - May not leave during the first 10 minutes of class or direct instruction.
 - Restroom visits over 6 minutes will be considered skipping class and this behavior will have a consequence (exceptions are made for nurse/administration approval).

- If you **finish your assignment early**, then: *complete missing work *do homework *read *write. You will always have something to do. You may not work on other class's work unless it is directly related to ELA – reading, writing, speaking.
- You may have water and snacks that are not loud, messy, or distracting. Trash goes into the trash can!
- Cell Phones need to be turned off and in your bookbag. Not doing this will result in a phone violation office referral. You are welcome to charge your phone every day.
- There will be times when you can listen to music – you **NEED** to use headphones and I should not be able to hear your music. **NO HEADPHONES** should be out unless I have directed you to use them.
- Please be respectful of my personal property.
- Supplies are available in your student stations. You can always *borrow* pencils, pens, and sticky notes. You can use the pencil sharpener, hole puncher, and stapler but replace it by the end of class.
- Please sharpen your pencil before class begins or after I have finished addressing the class.

→ Student Behavior:

- Be ready to learn - be in your assigned learning area and be attentive to the lesson.
- Be an active listener - listen to learn, take notes when needed, ask clarifying questions.
- Use positive language - use words that are supportive and kind, if it is not respectful it has no place in our classroom.
- Do not interfere with your peers' learning - be engaged in the lesson, follow directions, all non-academic activities will take place during non-primary instruction times.
- Keep your area clean and safe – no supplies should be in the main walking path, drinks need to have lids, all trash needs to go into the trash can.
- Follow all school rules - consequences for not displaying appropriate behavior: non-verbal and verbal warnings, a mini-conference and change of seat, written warning, notifying the school counselor, parent contact, and administration contact. As an ELA teacher, I enjoy communicating with parents/guardians.

→ Turn-in/Paper Management

- All papers are to be placed in the appropriate bin located on the table by the door.
- All papers should include your name, the date, and class period on the left side – see below.
- Many assignments will be accepted virtually, but you are responsible for printing / uploading necessary essays, projects, etc. **BEFORE** the due date.
- Graded work will be placed in your grades bin. I will pass out graded work once a week, but you can pick it up as you need.

→ Independent Reading

- We will be reading silently for extended times throughout each week. During this time, you should have your selected novel. Make sure you are reading and doing nothing else. We are building reading stamina.
- You may check books out of the Library or books from my classroom. My classroom books have a sign out/ sign in pad. If we do not have a book that interests you, we will conference to find your interest genre.

→ Ending Class

- Do not pack up until class is over. Return all materials to their designated locations. Clean up any trash around you. **STAY SEATED. WE DO NOT LINE UP AT THE DOOR.** I will dismiss you once the bell has rung.

→ **MLA Heading**

First Name Last Name
Ms. Myer
English ____
Aug. 22, 2023
Assignment Name

→ **General Heading**

Assignment Name	First Name Last Name
	Date

→ **Email Etiquette**

- Use your school email
- Subject Line: **Be Specific! – examples & non-examples:**
 - YES: “Independent Novel Check-out Issue”
 - NO: “Help”
 - YES: “Make-up Work 9/13/22”
 - NO: “missing work”
- Opening: “Ms. Myer,” -or- “Good Morning,” -or- “Good Afternoon,”
- Content: Be brief and use a **respectful tone**
- Closing: “Thank you,” -or- “Sincerely,” -or- “Regards,”
- First and Last Name, Class Period
- Do not expect responses between 5pm and 7am. I will respond within 24 hours, usually sooner. Follow-up with me if you do not get a response within 24 hours.

→ **Classroom Library**

- This is a work in progress. If we do not have a book, please let me know and we will work to get it for you (if it is school appropriate). When you are done reading a book, you will need to place it in the “Book Return” basket.

→ **Classroom Furniture/Cleanliness**

- All furniture, including tables, chairs, and couches, should not be moved from the area they are in unless you ask and receive permission.
- Use the furniture in the ways in which it was intended.
- Always clean up after yourself. If you spill something, ask to get paper towels, etc.

Please separate this page from the class letter, sign, and return only this page to the office with the Back-to-School Folder. The remainder of the document should be kept in the student or parents. A copy is also located on Ms. Myer's website.

Class Policies and Expectations for the Fall 2023 Semester

"I have read the English Syllabus and I understand the basic expectations, rules, and procedures that we will follow throughout this course. I realize that I am responsible for these regulations, procedures, and requirements and I know that I will be held accountable for the contents of this document."

Student Name (Printed)

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian (Printed)

Parent/Guardian (Signature)

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Effective and efficient communication is essential to your students' success. My preferred method of contact for general class updates and grade notices is email. If there is anything specific to your student that I need to discuss, I will call unless otherwise requested. If email is preferred, I ask that you respond within 48 hours. I do my best to respond to all emails within a reasonable amount of time. Emails sent by lunch will get a response that day, emails sent after lunch will get a response within 24 hours.

Thank you for your support in our student's learning!
Ms. Myer

	Parent/Guardian Contact #1	Parent/Guardian Contact #2
Name		
Primary Phone		
Secondary Phone		
Email		
Preferred Contact	Email:	Phone – text or call
Do you have access to home internet?	Yes	No

Please note any other notes that will be helpful in educating your child:
