

8th Grade ELA (English and Language Arts)

Cristina Sicora, NBCT

2018-2019

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Office Hours: by appointment

Communication: Parents/Guardians and Students:

- Email me first.
- Send notes through Parent Portal.
- Do not wait to contact me with concerns.

Course Description: This course emphasizes and demonstrates the skills for students to become active readers of informational text, fiction, poetry, and dramas. Students will develop skills to write narratives, dramas, memoirs, and expository essays. Grammar will be a daily focus and students will enhance their vocabulary by focusing on POWER words daily.

Objectives: As a result of this course students will be able to :

- Make connection between multiple texts.
- Summarize in their own words.
- Use evidence from text.
- Write in a variety of genres using the 6 traits of Writing.

Required for this course: Students must:

- Come prepared by having read the homework assignment and analyzed the text as demonstrated by answering analysis questions.
- Bring the blue and green notebooks and folders, charged Chromebook, assignment notebook, earbuds/headphones and textbook if it is being used or the novel.
- Be on time.
- Be a part of group discussion.
- Self reflect on weekly participation and effort.

Grading Scale and Policy:

- Under no circumstances is extra credit allotted.
- If you do not put your name on an assignment it will not be graded.
- You must label all assignments submitted through Google Classroom by putting your name first, underscore, and the title of the assignment. (e.g. CristinaSicora_7thgradesyllabus)

Category	%	Examples
Assessments/tests/quizzes	40	Benchmarks (Interim), quizzes and tests (including vocabulary)
Classroom Work	20	Reading activities in class
Participation	15	Participation, Discussion Checklist (small group and whole class)
Homework	5	Text discussion questions
Projects	20	Individual and group projects

Electronic Device Policy:

- Students may use cell phones in class as it pertains to a class project. A permission slip is required from the teacher. If there is no need for the cell phone in class, cell phones then are prohibited.
- Students must have their own earbuds/headphones.
- Chromebooks should be charged and only used for class related activities.

A violation of this policy may include but is not limited to:

- Confiscation of the cell phone. If this occurs it will be sent to the office for parent/guardian to pick up at the end of the school day.
- Loss of privilege to use the Chromebook in school.
- Conference with the teacher, parent/guardian, and student after school.

Scope and Sequence: Through the year students will learn and put new skills to practice while learning content.

Unit 1	Elements of a Short Story, Narrative Writing With the 6 Traits
Unit 2	<u>Animal Farm</u> by George Orwell, Expository Writing
Unit 3	<i>Raisin in the Sun</i> by Lorraine Hansberry, Drama Writing
Unit 4	<u>Night</u> by Elie Wiesel, Memoir Writing
Unit 5	Literature Circles, Poetry Writing

I have read the syllabus and agree with the policies and requirements.

Parent Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Telephone Number(s) _____ Parent Email _____

Student Name _____ Signature _____