

2019 -
2020

7th Grade English/Language Arts

**This syllabus is subject to change at teacher discretion.

TEACHERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION



Mrs. Renee Croom
reneecroom@chestercountyschools.org

Mrs. Beth Naylor
beth.naylor@chestercountyschools.org

Mrs. Karen Sewell
karen.sewell@chestercountyschools.org
*Email is the best way to contact me.



School Phone: (731) 989-8135



School Website: chestercountyschools.org



CLASS MATERIALS

Required:

- Binder (2-inch) to be used for English/Math/Social Studies
- Index Cards
- Subject Dividers for binder
- Several Sheet Protectors for binder
- Paper (either college rule or wide rule) for binder
- Expo markers (to keep and use in each class)
- Post-it notes (give one pad to each (4) teacher)
- Pencils (need every day, all year long)
- Highlighters
- Earbuds to plug into laptop
- Planner (for keeping up with assignments)

All students should come to class prepared EVERY DAY.

CLASS DESCRIPTION

This ELA class is designed to increase communication skills through reading, writing, speaking, and the study of the English language. We will be doing this through Summit.

This year we will read a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts that will emphasize different cultures. Students will create authentic writing to demonstrate an understanding of the cultures of the world. Because we are a community of learners, please also expect to work periodically in group situations and to present information to peers in groups or individually.

Please understand that at-home reading is expected and is a component of our course, but homework will be very minimal. The best way to improve reading skills and vocabulary is to read more and more.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

- 1. We are a team.** We work together, build relationships, and encourage each other to become a team.
- 2. We respect everyone.** We respect every person, his or her belongings, and his or her ideas.
- 3. We do our best.**
- 4. We follow school rules.** (See School and Board handbooks for detailed information)
- 5. We bring a positive attitude every day.** Unfortunately, bad days do occur. However, we should try to bring a positive attitude to each class.
- 6. We work hard every day.**
- 7. We come to class prepared.** Materials are listed above.
- 8. We will approach each task with GRIT, GROWTH, and GRATITUDE in mind.** Make it your goal to learn something new every day. If you do this, you will learn.

YEAR-LONG SKILLS

- This list consists of skills that will be continuously reinforced, practiced, and assessed. These skills are fundamental to most portions of reading and writing, and it is essential that students build on these basic skills.
- **Year-Long Skills:** parts of speech, sentence structures (writing mechanics including: subject-verb agreement, types of sentences, clauses/phrases, etc.), central idea, theme, key details, and citing textual evidence.

UNITS OF STUDY

Our major units of study will include but are not limited to:

- Unit 1:** Cultural Narrative with Flying Lessons
- Unit 2:** Argumentative Writers Workshop
- Unit 3:** Justice and Injustice
- Unit 4:** Outsiders on Trial
- Unit 5:** Powerful Words: Explanatory Writers' Workshop
- Unit 6:** Rhythm and Flow: Poetry

In our course of study in all the units, we will address the various elements of being a successful reader and writer.

ABSENTEE POLICY

- **YES, WE WILL DO SOMETHING IMPORTANT IF YOU ARE ABSENT.**

- It is the student's responsibility to make-up work from the teacher.
- The number of days absent plus one is the amount of time the student has to make up his or her work.

**PARENT E-MAILS**

- If you would like to receive e-mails, please send your child's teacher an email.
- Include your child's first and last name as the subject of the email.
- It would also be nice to include a little about your child and any information you believe will be beneficial that your child may or may not mention to us.
- Each teacher will also be setting up a Google Classroom. You can be added as a parent, or login with your child's information.

GRADING POLICY

- The Tennessee State Standards will be assessed throughout the grading periods.
- It is our goal that each student and parent stay up to date on the progress being made in class.
- Work will be graded and returned in-class in a timely manner. (Please allow a while longer for lengthier writing assignments.)
- You can keep up with your child's progress in the Summit Platform.
- We encourage you to contact the teacher about grades if you still have concerns after consulting with your child.

GRADING SCALE

A	93-100
B	92-85
C	75-84
D	70-74
F	0-69

Additional scoring information will be given by the specific teacher.

Redo-Retake Policy

Our ultimate goal is to see students perform best on their first attempt of any assignment, project, or assessment, given appropriate study techniques, strategies, practices, and efforts have been best utilized. We understand that not all students will master the standards / skills the first time around. As a result students must take ownership of their actions to reflect on practices and seek to complete review exercises before a second attempt is granted. Within Summit Learning, the students request to take an assessment, and if successful, they move on to the next assignment or goal. If a student needs to redo an assessment, he or she will meet with the teacher and work through resources to strengthen skills. When ready, the student can reassess.

We are looking forward to a fantastic year!

Parents, please sign and remove the slip below. Return it to your child's English/Language Arts teacher by the end of the week. The syllabus can also be found on the school website for future reference. **By signing below, I am agreeing that I have read the syllabus for seventh-grade ELA and understand the grading policy, classroom expectations, intended units of study, and supplies needed.**

Student signature _____

Parent signature _____