

Language Arts 9

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Course Description:

This freshman-level course covers literature, writing, grammar, listening, and speaking. The selection of literature ranges from fiction and poetry to speeches, plays, newspaper articles, journals, and legal documents. Students will understand literary elements, begin to analyze literature, and write critical responses to essential questions. They will also develop and strengthen grammar skills and usage. Students will develop writing skills and procedures. As well as, work on speaking and listening skills.

Major Course Objectives:

After completing the course, students will understand and be able to gain an appreciation of literature; use literary knowledge to demonstrate creative thinking and problem-solving skills; understand how literature reflects attitudes and values; develop an understanding of literature in order to respond critically to analytical questions. Apply knowledge of literary terms and techniques; write effective analytical essays with a clear focus, coherent organization, and evidence to support thesis; develop and apply their knowledge of standard English conventions in their speaking, writing, revising, and editing; pose questions, listen actively to the ideas of others, contribute their own information or ideas in discussions or in oral presentations; and develop contextual vocabulary skills and applications.

Utah has developed a Core Curriculum that outlines specific standards for student learning. The Core curriculum includes ideas, concepts, and skills that provide a foundation on which subsequent learning may be built. The state Core can be accessed at: <http://www.corestandards.org/the-standards/english-language-arts-standards>

Course Materials:

Students need to come prepared to class so they do not fall behind. Each day, students are expected to bring the necessary items to school to allow them to complete their work. This will vary depending on the activities the student is planning to work on. Students should plan ahead for what they will need. Students may bring their own laptop. Students will need a notebook for module notes which are available to use on all tests and quizzes. Students may also find headphones helpful during the audio portions of the course.

Students will be reading two novels:

- ❖ *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury
- ❖ *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- ❖ *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare (Play)

Students will be supplied a copy of these works unless they choose an early American novel that is not accessible for the school. Most novels are available through local libraries; some are even available in electronic forms.

Format and Procedure:

All courses will be delivered through the digital curriculum. Students will be required to attend Innovations for a minimum of six and a half (6.5) hours per day. Students may also be required to attend class during specific times to receive direct instruction or participate in discussions. Time will be made in the morning and afternoon to meet the needs of students.

Class Meetings:

Class meeting will be held to go over lessons and provide additional support daily. Please reference the master schedule for times. Students will be required to attend meetings unless they are moving at an accelerated pace in the class.

