

Instructor: Dana Savage
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Course Description:

Language Arts 9 2019-2020

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 are required to read 500 pages. They may pick their own books and the school has a lot of options in its library. This will be for term 4 credit.

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.

Students may take a pre-assessment at the beginning of each term. If the student scores a minimum of 70%, then he or she has the option to be excused from assignments or to do a competency essay and be completed with the course. If the student wants to be excused from assignments, it is the student's responsibility to let the teacher know.

If you want to test out of the course you need to complete the competency essay within two weeks of the test or the score will be invalid.

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.

Course Requirements:

- Students are expected to maintain a steady pace to complete coursework on time. Students must be on time and come prepared to learn.
- Students will be engaged in reading and writing assignments through the digital curriculum. Students will also be participating in group discussions and student-teacher conferences to ensure student understanding and completion.
- Computer labs and laptops will be available to students at Innovations. Due to the unique nature of our school, students must show respect for other students and the resources available to them. Coursework may be completed on or off campus. Students must complete their own coursework. A full list of coursework and descriptions is available online.
- **All assignments must be submitted in APA format. APA format is worth 15% of the assignment final grade.** There are templates in the course for APA format.

Cheating and Plagiarism:

Students must complete their own coursework. All tests require a password and **must be taken on campus in the testing center.**

Cheating includes:

- Completing another student's coursework or having another complete your coursework

- Sharing assignments and test answers with another student
- Using the internet to locate answers to an assignment or test, unless specifically directed to do so.
- Plagiarism includes using someone else's work as your own.
- This also includes not using correct citation and/or not correctly giving credit to the original source.
- Cheating and plagiarism will be grounds for disciplinary actions and/or removal from Innovations High School.

Grading Procedures:

Activity and grade listing is accessible online. Please allow the teacher a week to grade an assignment.

If a student turns in a hardcopy, it will be his or her responsibility to come pick it up. The teacher will only keep the document for two weeks after it was graded. The teacher will then recycle the assignment if it was not picked up.

When a student completes a course and is satisfied with the grade, it is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher to let her know the grade should be submitted.

At the end of the district term, if the student has a passing grade in the current term then the teacher will be submitting it. The student can return to the course to raise the grade after he or she completes the entire of LA. The following dates are the end of the term:

- Term 1: October 25, 2019
- Term 2: January 17, 2020
- Term 3: March 27, 2020
- Term 4: June 5, 2020

Innovations HS follows the SLC School Districts Grading Scale:

A 93 - 100%
A- 90 - 92%
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 below 60%

Course Schedule:

Students are permitted to complete coursework at their own pace. However, all coursework must be completed by the end of the year.

Class: English 9 Teacher: Dana Savage

I have read and agree to the rules specified in this disclosure: Student:

_____ print name Parent/Guardian:

_____ print name

X_____ signature

X_____ signature