

Tarkanian Middle School
Student Course Expectations, 2019-2020

Subjects:
ELA 8 and ACC ELA8

Course Scope

English 8	<p>This one-year course provides instruction in the English Language Arts strands identified by the Common Core State Standards as reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. This course is designed to build on knowledge and skills through close reading of texts, learning combining elements of different kinds of writing in support of analysis and reflection, and class discussions. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This course fulfills the eighth grade English requirement.</p>
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Course Goals

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To further develop critical thinking.2. To further enhance the fundamentals of writing as a process.3. To write for a variety of purposes and audiences.4. To analyze models of quality writing.5. To write and speak using Standard English grammar, usage, sentence structure, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.6. To employ the common terminology needed for the purpose of discussing correct usage, mechanics, and forms of writing.7. To use stylistic devices effectively in order to improve writing and begin to develop a personal style.8. To expand vocabulary and increase spelling proficiency.9. To read and interpret a variety of literature including fiction, nonfiction, drama, and poetry.10. To apply literary terminology in the analysis of literature.11. To develop effective speaking and listening skills.12. To apply library, research, and study skills.13. To respond respectfully to the ideas of others.14. To develop an understanding of good character and ethics by responding to a wide variety of written and oral communication.15. To develop an awareness and appreciation of other cultures.

Recommended Materials

<p>Each student must come to class with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Pencil, blue, or black ink pen.2. Highlighter3. College ruled lined notebook and/or paper.4. Binder or section in binder for notes and materials.
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Textbook and other Resources Information

The textbook for this course is Spring Board Level 3 by College Board. A classroom set will be available to all students. Also, a PDF version will be available in all Google Classroom locations.

Assignments & Late Work

Assignments

All assignments will align with the Nevada State Standards for 8th grade ELA. All assignments will be available in Google Classroom. Because all work assigned to students should be valuable to the learning process, it is the goal that all work be completed to the best of the students' abilities.

Late Work

If a student turns in work late, one letter grade will be taken off the students' grade for that particular assignment. A Minimum F (50%) will be given on an assignment that is turned in receiving a score below 50%. For every 3 late assignments, students' citizenship grade will be dropped one level.

Evaluation and Grading System

All grades will be based on the following scale:

A (90 – 100%), B (80 – 89%), C (70 – 79%), D (60 – 69%), F (0 – 59%)

Quarter grades will be based on the following weighted point system.

Summative Assessments (Embedded Assessments and Novel Projects) = 80%

Formative Assessments (Project pre-work, Classwork, & Homework) = 20%

Semester grades will be based on the quarter grades (two at 40% each) and a semester exam (20%).

Citizenship grades will be determined by each student's ability to make good choices regarding respect and responsibility as determined by school and classroom rules and procedures.

Please Note: Parents can use the internet to follow their child's weekly progress in all classes through *Infinite Campus*. For more information on this service, please call the school at 799-6801.

Expected Student Behavior

Mutual Courtesy / Mutual Respect

Respect for oneself and others is achieved through positive interactions with those around you. To ensure that classroom activities benefit all, students will be expected to be:

Capable – seated with required materials out and ready by the final bell.

Courteous – polite to each member of the class, including visitors and substitutes.

Cooperative – follow all classroom rules and procedures for actions such as speaking, leaving their seats, sharpening their pencils, and working on assignments in groups or individually.

Considerate – show respect for others and their feelings.

Consequences / Rewards

All students have the right to learn; any behavior which disrupts this process will be addressed through a variety of methods including, but not limited to:

Phone calls/letters to parents

Parent conferences

Reduction in citizenship grade

Detention

Loss of privileges

Dean's referral/detention

Students who contribute to a positive educational experience for themselves and their fellow classmates can expect the following rewards:

Commendable citizenship grades

Positive phone calls/letters to parents

Academic and privilege passes

Participation in grade-level activities

Field Trip privileges

Please fill out and return this form ASAP.

I have read the Student Expectations forms and I understand my responsibilities.

Student's Printed Name _____

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

I have read the Student Expectations forms and I understand what will be required of my child. I assure that my child will regularly attend school and, unless there are extreme circumstances, will do the work assigned to him/her.

Parent's/Guardian's Printed Name _____

Parent's/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

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Contact Information (Please Print)

Address: _____
Number and Street

City	State	Zip Code
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Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Cell Phone #1: _____

Cell Phone #2: _____

Work Phone #1: _____

Work Phone #2: _____

Work Location #1: _____

Work Location #2: _____

PARENTS MAY MAKE APPOINTMENTS FOR CONFERENCES WITH THEIR CHILD'S TEACHERS BY CALLING THE TARKANIAN MIDDLE SCHOOL COUNSELING OFFICE AT 799-6801.