

## Middle School Literary Arts 2022-2023

Rm 222

Google Classroom Code: yf5jhjw

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### Course Description:

In this year-long course we will explore a variety of types of writing, such as fiction, screenwriting, and journalism. Through lecture, discussion, film clips, and writing activities, we will explore what these forms of writing have in common, and the specific elements and approaches that make each so unique.

### Classwork and Assignments:

**-Discussions and Participation:** Students will be expected to show up to class prepared to engage and write. Ample class time will be given for all assignments, and students will be expected to use their time fully.

**-Workbooks:** For Amelia's class, students will be expected to keep a notebook to take notes, complete independent workbook exercises, and document their inspirations and process.

**Writing Exercises:** Regular writing exercises will be assigned throughout the semester to practice key concepts and skills. Students will be expected to complete these activities during class time (or, if they find it necessary, independently) and turn in these assignments through Google Classroom in a **TIMELY** manner. While deadlines are flexible, missing assignments will result in a zero.

### Peer Reviews

Students will work together in pairs or small groups to give and receive feedback on drafts and then will revise their work accordingly. Peer reviews will be conducted respectfully and in a safe and trusting environment.

### Student Assessment & Grading

20% Peer Reviews/Workbooks/Reflections

30% Amelia's Course Assignments

30% Karnes's Course Assignments

20% Participation and Attendance

-Students have the opportunity to earn **3 points a day** (12 points a week) for their **Daily Participation grade, which accounts for 10% towards their overall grade.** This includes a point for being on time, being present, and for actively participating.

Do not hesitate to email us if you are absent, if you're confused, if you're overwhelmed, or if you need any kind of support or assistance during this course. We want each of you to succeed, but we need your help to do it. So reach out! Keep us informed.

### Rules

**-Phones are to be OUT OF SIGHT:** either in phone caddies or backpacks. Students may use phones only with explicit teacher permission.

**-1st offense:** device will be taken and returned after class. Parent/guardian will be emailed.

**-2nd offense:** device will be returned at the end of the day. Parent/guardian will be emailed.

**-3rd offense:** device will be given to Administration and returned to student's parent or guardian. If device not surrendered, student will be sent to the Dean's office.

**-Begin class on time and in your seat with all materials** (workbook, pen, Chromebook, assigned text, etc).

**-Computers should be closed unless we're writing...**or possibly if we're reading a PDF. We're in person for a reason - let's give our eyes a rest from screens whenever we can and be grateful for the chance to stare at each other's actual faces instead of through the glitchy square of a Zoom screen. :)

**-Do not eat in class.** This is for everyone's safety. Unless you have a documented medical reason, it's important that we do our snacking en plein air. :)

**-Students are expected to use the restroom/get water before and after class, or wait until instruction is complete.** Do your best to hold it until after you've got a handle on what we're doing for the day. Only one student can use the bathroom pass at a time, so be kind to your peers, and don't dawdle.

**-If you're feeling overwhelmed, anxious, or need to take a break, come talk to us.** We can then figure out a way for you to take a moment to yourself, even if the bathroom pass isn't available.

**-Be mindful, be compassionate, be considerate.** These are unprecedented times. We've all been through a lot and are continuing to go through A LOT. Let's practice patience, empathy, and care with one another, and with ourselves too.