

## 9th Grade English Language Arts 2018-19

### Contact

Ms. Megan Terry: [mterry@kiheicharter.org](mailto:mterry@kiheicharter.org)

Room 321

Course info, due dates, current project guidelines for parents or students: <http://msterrykcs.weebly.com>

**Google classroom** is where you'll find all daily announcements, lessons, and assignments. Get your code from Ms. Terry and write it here:

Never hesitate to contact me! I will always have your best interest at heart, and am on your side!

Please use your [kiheicharter.org](mailto:kiheicharter.org) email for school-related contact. Check email daily.

### Course Description

*9th grade English Language Arts weaves content aligned to age-appropriate standards, tools that help students strengthen literacy and communications, and projects aimed at strengthening the critical thinking and interpersonal skills necessary for success in high school and beyond. Curriculum is rigorous and student-centered, integrating a broad range of texts, both fiction and nonfiction, classic and contemporary. Students will create projects, compositions, presentations, and other targeted assessments that address skills needed for success in our contemporary world.*

**Attendance:** You must come to class to succeed. We all have circumstances/illnesses which keep us home, but students with frequent absences will not be successful in the course, as learning and assessments happen in person every day. If you must miss class, you are expected to check Google classroom and make up what you missed as soon as possible. There is no class time available to repeat lessons or instructions for absent students. I have an open door policy outside of class time. However, I will expect you to carefully read what you missed on Google classroom BEFORE reviewing lessons or assignment instructions with you. *Students should communicate ASAP with Ms. Terry about reasonable extensions for work missed during EXCUSED absences. Whenever possible, communicate absences ahead of time to work out an action plan.*

**Cell Phones and Responsible Use of Technology:** Many people have become so addicted to devices and internet browsing/gaming that these technologies have become a toxic distraction in the classroom. For that reason, I implement a strict NO CELL PHONE policy in which students must leave their devices in the front of the room. Parents needing to reach their child immediately should contact the front office. Students engaging in off-task computer use will be blocked per school policy. Being blocked can pose a huge obstacle to success in this course. Harassing or "joking" online behavior will not be tolerated and the student will be referred to administration for disciplinary action.

**The Work:** Each quarter is structured around at least one larger thematic project. Assignments and activities are intended to help students build necessary skills and knowledge for completing these projects. I expect you to put forth your best effort to create work that you can be proud of. Deadlines and expectations will be clear through the class sites, and I will be happy to provide extra help as needed.

**Grading:**

Assessments based on content standards 50%  
21st Century Skills (21C) 25%  
Classwork and Homework 25%

**Grading Scale:**

90-100% A                      70-79% C  
80-89% B                      60-69% Incomplete (this will not count for credit)  
Below – 60% Failing

**NOTE: 4 complete credits of Language Arts are required to graduate.**

**Late Work/Remediation:** I follow the school’s late work policy. If you hand something in on time, you can remediate for a better grade. Late assignments will lose 10% of the total points per day late and will not be accepted after two weeks. *Excessive late work will cause students to fail the course.*

**Individual and Group Projects:** Learning can be more meaningful through authentic projects and activities. At times you will work individually and at others within a group. Group assignments will be awarded a group and an individual grade, of which both combined have an impact on an individual’s grade. Please recognize that the interpersonal skills gained and lessons learned through these class experiences are more valuable than receiving every point on a particular assignment. There will be many assessment opportunities, and ultimately the grade earned will reflect your own effort.

**School and Classroom Policies:**

Please refer to the student handbook (found at [www.kiheicharter.org](http://www.kiheicharter.org)) for policies on responsible use of computers, handheld devices and technology, PLAGIARISM, and all other student expectations. Violation of school policy can jeopardize your grade in the class.

\_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT EMAIL and PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and agree to the above guidelines: \_\_\_\_\_

(Student signature)

I have read and agree to the above guidelines: \_\_\_\_\_

(Parent/Guardian signature)

Please leave me any additional comments that would be help me address the specific needs of your child in the box on the back of this form! Thank you!

***Submission of this slip is your first 10 point assignment. Due on Friday, August 11.***