

## 2017-18 Course Syllabus

**Cicely Tyson Middle/High School**

**Title of Course:** English I

**Days of the Week:** Monday - Friday

**Teacher's e-mail:** Ashley.carter@eastorange.k12.nj.us

**Teacher's name** Mrs. Ashley Carter- Anderson

**School phone number:** (973) 414-8600

**Room #** 124

### Welcome and Introduction

Welcome to English I. I'm your instructor, Mrs. Ashley Carter- Anderson. We'll be together for the 2017- 2018 school year. In this course, we'll come together to help you learn to strengthen and grow in the following areas: Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening, and Language Skills.

**Supplies:** Pencils & Pens (Blue or Black ink)

1-1inch binder with dividers or 3 Subject Notebook for English ONLY!

Folder

Daily Planner

\*\*Parents- classroom donations of tissue, sanitizer and Lysol wipes are greatly appreciated.

### Course Theme

**“Practice isn't the thing you do once you're good. It's the thing you do that makes you good”**

**– Malcolm Gladwell**

### Course Goals/Essential Questions

- Closely read and comprehend a variety of texts and cite textual evidence to support conclusions drawn.
- Develop and strengthen our writing by planning, revising, editing, and publishing.
- Engage effectively in collaborative group discussions, listening and building on others' ideas and expressing your own ideas clearly.
- Acquire and correctly use a range of academic and domain-specific vocabulary words/phrases.
- Utilize technology ethically and critically

### Methods of Instruction

You will be expected to demonstrate knowledge independently, in pairs, small groups, and whole group. Activities will vary depending on the skill used (ex. hands-on, turn-and talk discussions, projects and presentations, research, learning stations, etc.).

### Course Component Specifics

All students are held to the same high expectations in this English course. You are a community of scholars and you are expected to participate in class, respect your classmates' opinions, and carry a positive attitude for learning. You are also expected to be an honest learner, which means no cheating or plagiarism on research assignments. Have the confidence in yourself to give your original best. This is all that is required of you.

### Attendance and Make-Up Work

When you are absent for ANY reason, it is your responsibility as a middle school student to check the absent log for any missed assignments and turn them in the following day.

Absences are recognized for the following reasons:

1. Absences to participate in official school/district activities (performances, field trips, athletic events, etc.)
2. Absences for medical reasons
3. Pass indicating you were with Administrator/Guidance/Nurse/CST/Social Worker/Discipline
4. Passes from another teacher (as long as you have come to me for permission first).

### Course Requirements and Grading

Your evaluation will be based on classwork (15%), homework (15%), quizzes (20%), Projects/Essays (20%), and tests (30%).

- **Classwork** - Daily warm-up activities (do-nows) are given every day as a pass/fail grade. Other points are given for the classwork activities, independent reading, participation, and behavior. Points will vary depending on the week and will be entered into our Focus system.
- **Homework** - Assignments are given a percentage grade (0%-100%). Homework is due the following morning at the beginning of the period. At the end of the week, the students will receive an average homework grade.
- **Quizzes** - Quizzes are given as needed to evaluate understanding and are worth an overall 20% of the final grade.
- **Projects/Essays** - Students will have a project due each cycle in relation to the topic discussed. Rubrics that illustrate requirements will be provided for each project. Essays are graded using a writing rubric.
- **District benchmarks** - ELA students will take district unit assessments to measure the growth of the learning objectives for each unit.

### Opportunities for Extra Support

Students may schedule time for extra help during their lunch period or after school. They must see me for a pass in advance.

### How to Reach Me

Parents may e-mail or call me at anytime. Please allow 24-48 hours for response.

### Required text/E-book/Online Resources Used

Holt McDougal 9<sup>th</sup> grade Literature Book

Online Resource: <http://my.hrw.com> (login to be provided when available)

Online Resource: newsela.com (login to be provided when available)

### Quarterly/Unit Schedule

**Quarter/Unit I Dates: 9/7/17- 11/17/17**

### Topics

- Theme: Voices of the Past – Power Standard Initiative
  - Assignments/projects/Assessments
    - Homework will be assigned weekly
    - Bi-weekly formative assessments
    - Unit 1 Explanatory Writing Task- Portfolio Requirement
    - Inquiry and Research Task- Portfolio Requirement
    - Unit Assessment
- **Students will understand:**
  - Short stories have parts that are interrelated
  - Essential content, literary elements and devices inform meaning
  - Textual structure and features inform meaning
  - Acquiring and applying a robust vocabulary assists in constructing meaning
  - Life lessons can be learned from studying other people’s experiences

### \*Unit 1 Assessment Dates 11/14-11/15

*Cicely L. Tyson Community School for Performing and Fine Arts Middle/High School where:  
“ We aim high. We soar high.”*