

Course Syllabus

Cicely Tyson Middle/High School
6th Grade ELA
MTWRF

Ms. Henao
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Room: 204
School phone number: (973) 414-8600

Welcome and Introduction

Welcome to 6th Grade Language Arts. I am your instructor, Ms. Henao. We will be together for the 2018-2019 school year. In this course, we will come together to learn and strengthen skills in Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening, and Vocabulary.

Course Goals/Essential Questions

- Demonstrate skills in writing, reading, and critical thinking
- Demonstrate in writing the standards of grammar and style
- Demonstrate an understanding of writing as a process
- Produce writing that demonstrates academic ethics and applies information literacy to a question/problem
- Determine and analyze themes while noting main idea, vocabulary, text features, and point of view

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 being introduced and assessed (ex. hands-on, turn-and talk discussions, projects and presentations, research, learning stations, etc.).

Course Component Specifics

Classroom etiquette is defined as coming to class on time and staying for the full duration. I kindly ask that you limit your bathroom use to before and after class. I understand emergencies happen but do not make it a habit of using the bathroom during class.

One of our goals for the class is free discussion which requires an awareness of your peers and their opinions. I require and expect that you are all respectful of each other, listen to what each other has to say, and formulate your disagreements constructively and thoughtfully. Be mindful of tone, language, and volume.

Plagiarism and cheating have no place in a community of scholars. Have the confidence in yourself to give your original best work. This is all that is required of you. If you are struggling, ask for help.

Plagiarism is defined as copying the ideas and/or language of any source without acknowledging that source. Cheating is defined as giving, receiving, or taking of any information or written work that is not your own.

Tips to avoid academic dishonesty:

1. Do not lend your work to anyone. If you wish to help a friend, go over the work together and do not leave any copies in his or her possession.

2. Do not leave your work in any public space.
3. Acknowledge and quote ideas, facts, or language taken from a source. This includes key words and short phrases
4. Paraphrase/ summarize in your own words.

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 folder 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 come to me for permission first).

Without a legitimate reason, late work –if accepted- will have points deducted from merited graded.

Course Requirements and Grading (as outlined in the Student Handbook)

Tests	30%
Projects/Research Paper	20%
Quizzes	20%
Classwork	15%
Homework	15%

Opportunities for Extra Support

Students may schedule time for extra help during their lunch period or after school.

You must see me for a pass in advance.

How to Reach Me

At the top of the syllabus, email and phone number provided. For emails, please allow 24-48 hours response time. I am also available on Class Dojo.

Date of the 1st Parent/Teacher meeting: Open House is November 1st

Required text/E-book/Online Resources Used

Holt McDougal 6th grade Literature Book

Google Classroom

Quarter/Unit 1 Dates: 9/6/18-11/16/18

Topics

Theme: Building character through literacy

- Homework will be assigned weekly
- Bi-weekly formative assessments
- Unit 1 Comparative Writing Task- Portfolio Requirement

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

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