

# 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts

Ms. Mikaela Young  
School Phone: 480-224-2434  
Room #B4

**Tutoring Hours:** 4:00-4:30 on  
Mondays or by appointment

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(the best way to reach me)

<http://cusd80.com/pjhs-Young>

## Welcome, Seventh Graders!

## Payne Junior High School 2017-18

### COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

*Throughout the year, we will be learning the skills needed to apply critical thinking skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening.*

Every student will be expected to make authentic, real world applications to the texts we read, and learn to recognize and ideally, come to appreciate the value of all genres of literature.

We will acquire skills and strategies to increase their comprehension, while they continue to extend and refine their knowledge about major literary concepts. There will be a variety of writing activities and assignments throughout the year, each of which is designed to expand the current writing skills students already have.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

We will:

- respond to a text by employing personal experiences and critical analysis
- control language by applying the conventions of Standard English in writing and speaking
- evaluate the content, organization, and language use of texts

**UNITS:** This course is separated into four major units. Ideally, they will be completed during each of the four quarters of the school year. Each unit will include short stories, articles, discussions, and poetry.

1. Memoir
2. Informational Texts
3. Historical Fiction
4. Science Fiction

**TEXTS:** Students will be reading one large text for most units. These texts are the novels your student will read.

- *The Outsiders*
- *Castle*
- *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* (7<sup>th</sup> only)
- *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Honors only)
- Short Stories

#### **DAILY CLASS PROCEDURE:**

You must be in your seat by the bell. Get out your materials. Record your homework in your agenda. Make sure that your phone is OFF. Hang your backpack on your chair. Follow the instructions on the board. At the end of class, stay in your seat! The bell does not dismiss you from class, I do.

#### **GRADING:**

Grading will be done based on weighting.

##### **Weights for Each Assignment:**

- Classwork – 35%
  - daily assignments, small activities, etc.
- Homework – 15%
  - official homework, small at-home practices or notes
- Assessments – 50%
  - tests, quizzes, papers, projects, etc.

## MAKE-UP WORK POLICY:

Students will be required to keep track of their absences. You will have the exact number of days you missed to complete your make-up work. For example, if you missed one week, you will have one week from the day you get back to complete an assignment and turn it in. It is YOUR responsibility to ask questions, and complete and turn in your work. You must print your own make-up work from the website.

**Tests and Quizzes:** You have one week to make-up a test or quiz before it becomes a zero. You must come see me to schedule a make-up time.

## Class Expectations

We will all maintain an emotionally, physically, and academically safe environment.

We will allow teachers to teach.

We will allow learners to learn.

## CONSEQUENCES FOR BEHAVIOR:

- 1) **Warning**—Verbal or sticky note on desk. Student will leave last.
- 2) **Behavioral Reflection**—Pink sheet, discussion with teacher, & email or call to parents.  
Upon third contact home about behavior:
- 3) **Office Referral**—Conference with Mr. Bollard or Mrs. Palella. Referral is saved on school record.
- 4) **Administrative Consequence.**

## LATE WORK POLICY:

It is up to the teacher's discretion to accept any late work or to allow students to make up assignments. Any student wishing to discuss their grade must directly speak to the teacher either in person outside of class time or by email. All late work will only be worth 50% after the due date. Late projects and papers will have 20% deducted for each day they are late.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Students will need four college-ruled composition notebooks, coloring utensils, highlighters, pens, and tape for everyday drills, notes, small writing assignments, etc. Students will also need to have a writing utensil and loose-leaf paper with them EVERY class period.

"It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities."

— J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*

## Thank you for reading!

Student Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Contact Info (the best way to reach you): \_\_\_\_\_

If you have comments, questions, or concerns, **please email me.**

\*This syllabus is also available on Ms. Young's website.\*