

Port Townsend High School PTHS Phone #: 360.379.4520

PTHS Website: http://highschool.ptschools.org/

Course Syllabus English Language Arts



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Essential Skills: English Language Arts 2019-2020

General Course Outline

Major Themes: Reading, Writing, and Organization of English Language Arts.

Common Core State Standards: Listening, Speaking, Written Expression, and Reading

Course Description:

This course is designed to work on your individual goals for ELA, as well as, develop, strengthen and improve your skills in the English Language Arts for positive academic performance and achievement. We will explore English Language arts through reading a variety of texts and participating in diverse writing opportunities. This course will work on improving our skills in reading, writing (conventions (grammar, punctuation, spelling,) structure and organization of your written expression.

You will need to bring:

- Willingness to try
- ❖ Willingness to make mistakes
- Willingness to take risks
- Willingness to have an open mind

Materials to have ready:

- ✓ Binder
- ✓ Lined Paper- A good supply.
- ✓ Highlighter
- ✓ Blue or Black ink pen

Grades are based on points: <u>total earned</u> = your %

total possible

Points are earned through attempt and/or completion of assignments, and through meeting the criteria stated for each assignment.

Participation:

Monday through Friday you can earn **up to 10 points each day** for *arriving on time*, *staying on task*, *staying in class*, and *etc*.

Assignments:

Various assignments will have points assigned based on the 'weight' of the assignment (i.e. a paragraph might= 5 points, a report may = 40 points).

Grades:

A- to A = 90%-100% Extreme effort, risk taking, tremendous improvement, completes all assignments.

B - to B+= 80%-89% Strong effort, moderate risk taking, solid improvement, completes all assignments.

C- to C+= 70%-79% Some effort, mild risk taking, some improvement, completes most assignments.

D to D+= 60%-69% Little effort, little improvement, completes some assignments.

F = 59% and below No improvement, no effort, little to no work.

Classroom Community:

Natural and logical consequences exist for showing respect, assuming responsibility for one's actions, and acting safely in class.

The **positive** consequences happen when your choices are helping yourself and helping others feel safe in their environment and allowing teaching and learning to happen. Positive consequences help you build confidence and feel good about yourself.

The *negative* consequences happen when your choices are making others not feel safe in their environment and obstructs the teaching and learning of others.

If a student is having difficulty meeting classroom expectations (i.e. declines to accept the negative consequence), there are additional consequences. If a student chooses to break the rules, then discipline steps will be imposed to curb repeated minor offenses following the Port Townsend's Behavior Intervention System (BIS).

Steps 1-3 Course Expectations and verbal Re-direction

Steps 4-7 Parent Notification and assigned detention

Steps 8+ Administrative Conference and suspensions

Use of Cell Phones and Digital Devices:

Per Teacher direction digital devices may be considered for use for listening to music, white noise, or silence may be considered to meet student need. Music must be soft enough that your closest neighbor cannot hear it. Please remember and be considerate that some people need a quiet environment in which to learn. Cell Phones and other personal devices are to be in your backpack, not present on self or table, per PTHS Cell Phone Policy.

This classroom is a Facebook and social media **FREE ZONE**. Everyone has the right to feel safe in this environment and in the cyber environment.

I have reviewed and understand the course objectives and expectations. By signing this form I agree to the course program. I pledge to be mindful and to do my best!

*	*
(Student Name Print)	(Student Name Signature)