

CSUS English Language Arts 8 2020-21

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Course Overview-- Welcome to your 8th grade ELA class!

Essential Questions Semester 1

- How does my identity and intersectionality shape who I am and my worldview?
- How do I learn more about my own identity (mirrors) and the identity of others (windows) through literature?

Our ELA 8 remote course will provide scholars with rich experiences in reading, writing, speaking, listening, as well as other forms of self expression. We will read and engage in diverse works of literature and write across many genres in preparation for high school English.

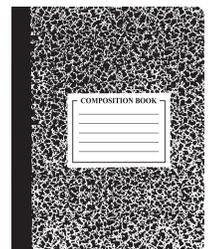
- I. Building Digital and Literary Routines, Scholar Choice, and Community
- II. Identity Unit (Poetry, Narrative, and Literary Nonfiction)
- III. Storytelling: Crafting Our Voices in Short Stories
- IV. "Book" Clubs and Literature Study-text(s) TBD
- V. Social Justice Research Editorials (Collaboration with Social Studies)
- VI. Reader's Theater-- TBD
- VII. Reflective Writing; Portfolios/Capstones

FOR SCHOLARS AND CAREGIVERS TO KNOW:

Independent Reading

Scholars are expected to read a book of their own choice for at least 30 minutes 5 times a week (or more!). This can also be done in small groups with books you choose together!

Composition Notebook -- I recommend one traditional composition notebook devoted just to ELA.



Asynchronous Assignments

Scholars will receive **two** asynchronous assignments per week. These will be listed in the CSUS *Sunday Rundown* and posted on Google Classroom by Monday morning at 9am. They will have available “*Flexible Work Time*” throughout the week to complete their assignments. All assignments will be due on Friday. Scholars will receive comments in **google classroom** or **commonlit** and a grade for the assignments will be posted in Aspen by Friday of the following week.

LIVE ELA Lessons

Scholars will meet for a **LIVE ELA** class twice a week. This time will be used for class discussions, review of readings and writing, and as much peer-to-peer and group work interaction as possible. Scholars will be asked to log on through the Google Meet linked at the top of their Google Classroom. Attendance will be posted daily to ensure that your scholar was in attendance during LIVE class.

While learning online will be different than meeting in person, it is still essential that we all do the following: *take care of ourselves, take care of each other, and take care of our virtual learning space*. Following these guidelines during the CSUS remote school day will benefit your scholar’s progress. We will also work together to generate ELA Community Agreements that work best for our class.

We highly encourage open connections with our families. Please email dcerundolo@cpsd.us, mmulowney@cpsd.us, or amyers@cpsd.us or use the “*Remind*” app with any additional questions, concerns, or ideas you would like to share. We will respond as promptly as possible (and no later than the next day.)

We are here to support you all and to make remote learning engaging, authentic, and inspiring for our class and school community.

--The 8th Grade ELA Team Ø

