

English Language Arts
New Ross Consolidated School
~ Course Outline ~
Ms. N. Clarke
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Welcome to Grade 8 English!

Texts/Units of Study:

Independent Novel Study
Short Stories
Creative and Critical Writing
Oral Presentation Skills
Novel Study as a class
Poetry
Nonfiction and Media Literacy

Materials Required:

Students will need pens (blue or black), pencils, a highlighter, a binder/duotangs for just English, a scribbler for journal writing and loose-leaf. It should also be noted that on most days, students will be required to take part in fifteen minutes of silent reading at the beginning of class; therefore, they are expected to come with a novel to read each day.

Course Objectives:

This course is intended to help students achieve the following three strands of the Atlantic Canadian Middle School Language Arts Curriculum:

Speaking and Listening:

1. Students will be expected to speak and listen to explore, extend, clarify and reflect on their thoughts ideas, feelings and experiences.
2. Students will be expected to communicate information and ideas effectively and clearly, and to respond personally and critically.
3. Students will be expected to interact with sensitivity and respect, considering situation, audience and purpose.

Reading and Viewing:

4. Students will be expected to select, read, and view with understanding a range of literature, information, media, and visual texts.
5. Students will be expected to interpret, select and combine information, using a variety of strategies, resources, and technologies.

6. Students will be expected to respond personally to a range of texts.
7. Students will be expected to respond critically to a range of texts, applying their understanding of language, form and genre.

Writing and Other Ways of Representing:

8. Students will be expected to use writing and other ways of representing to explore, clarify and reflect on their thoughts, feelings, experiences, and learnings; and to use their imagination.
9. Students will be expected to create texts collaboratively and independently, using a variety of forms for a range of audiences and purposes.
10. Students will be expected to use a range of strategies to develop effective writing and other ways of representing, and to enhance clarity, precision and effectiveness.

Assessment:

There are three general sources of **assessment** evidence gathered in classrooms: **observations** of student learning, **products** students create and **conversations** (discussing learning with students).

- Journals/Writer's Notebook Writing
- In-class Assignments
- Unit Tests & Quizzes
- Individual and Group Projects, including Independent Novel Study projects

Parents/Guardians:

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns at the school or via email nicoleclarke@nlesd.ca. **Work is regularly posted on Google Classroom and/or my website (<https://msnclarke.weebly.com/>)**. It is my hope that the continued communication and support of all will result in the best possible outcomes regarding your child's education. Please sign and return this course outline **as soon as possible** as an indication that you have read and gone over its contents with your son/daughter.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date