

Patriot Block: Literacy Syllabus

Credits: 0.5

Course Length: Semester

Requirements:

This course is open to all students Grades 9 -12.

Course Description:

Designed as a school-day intervention/enrichment period, "Patriot Block" provides all PHS students with the opportunity to receive accelerated learning opportunities in the areas where they demonstrate the highest need. During "Patriot Block," PHS faculty use both digital and in-person intervention resources and strategies over the course of a regularly scheduled, block period. "Patriot Block" is a credit-bearing class (0.5 credits per semester) and is graded on a "Pass/Fail" scale.



Related Frameworks/Competencies:

- PHS Learner Expectations
- Rhode Island Core Standards for Math ([RIDE link](#))
- Rhode Island Core Standards for ELA/Literacy ([RIDE link](#))

Course Outcomes/Power Standards:

This intervention course has been designed to provide students with opportunities to develop and apply critical reading and thinking skills through guided, shared, and independent reading. During Literacy Support, students receive intensive instruction aligned to the Common Core State Standards in reading comprehension, vocabulary development, and oral reading fluency. The instructional focus is on specific strategies and skills that students will be able to apply to all content areas. Students will also be exposed to a variety of genres, including high-interest fiction and nonfiction texts, magazines, newspapers, online materials and test preparation. The goal of the Literacy Support is not only to increase the student's reading proficiency but also to increase their motivation and engagement with the entire reading process. This course is a literacy intervention provided to students as a follow-up to the reading screening assessment (STAR) administered three times a year to all students in grades 9-12. It is offered during a portion of a student's Patriot Block. Students who require this intervention are identified using a set of decision rules created by the interventionists.

Course Expectations (Attendance, Participation, & Preparation):

Participation/Preparation for Class: In order for students to find success in patriot block, students are expected to come prepared for class with their notebook, charged Chromebook, pen/pencil, calculator, and any other supplies required for class.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes and will have greater success in doing so. Attendance will be taken each class. YOU are responsible for making arrangements to get notes, assignments, directions, or announcements for missed classes. YOU are still responsible for completing weekly assignments and expectations, whether present or absent. If you have ANY questions please see the classroom teacher and/or read the policy outlined in the most recent iterations of the Student Handbook.

Course Communication: Some methods for class communication will be through personal conversation, school email, Aspen, and Google Classroom. The best way to contact the teacher is through use of these methods. Messages and/or assignments may be posted in Google Classroom or on support platforms. For this reason, students should check Google Classroom regularly.

Course Incompletes: Incompletes are not common practice. In the event that an incomplete must be given the student, teacher, school counselor, and guardian(s) will collaboratively come up with a dated plan that outlines the necessary steps for course completion. If you have ANY questions please see the classroom teacher and/or read the policy outlined in the most recent iterations of the Student Handbook. "Patriot Block" is a credit-bearing class (0.5 credits per semester) and is graded on a "Pass/Fail" scale.

Electronic Devices: During the accelerated learning portion of Patriot Block, your attention should be focused only on the invention/enrichment platform, instructional videos (if needed), and taking notes. As such, using electronic devices other than your intervention platform is prohibited (no music). However, during self-directed learning, you may access other tabs or technology to assist with your work completion and focus. That being said, the teacher reserves the right to have any student put away an electronic device that is determined to be disrupting your learning or the learning of others. If you have ANY questions please see the classroom teacher and/or read the policy outlined in the most recent iterations of the Student-Parent-Teacher Handbook.

Academic Dishonesty: It is paramount that you do your own work; provide appropriate references to all assignments; and abide by the Portsmouth High School academic honesty policy. Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action. If you have ANY questions please see the classroom teacher and/or read the policy outlined in the most recent iterations of the PHS Student Handbook.

Grade Reporting: Grades will be entered into the ASPEN in a timely fashion. It is your responsibility to verify grades have been entered correctly. If you notice a discrepancy, and/or feel an error has been made, please speak with the teacher as soon as possible so that the issue might be resolved.

Grading:

"Patriot Block" is a credit-bearing class (0.5 credits per semester) and is graded on a "Pass/Fail" scale. Each week, students will be graded on a 10-point rubric based on work completion, notetaking, and overall engagement in the learning process.

Grading Scale:

A passing grade for this course will be an average of 65. This course will be reported as Pass/Fail on all transcripts.