



CP ELA (CP)

Teacher Contact/Assistance Information

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Availability: During WIN and after school (at agreed upon times)

*Access materials through the daily class slide deck (posted on Google Classroom)

Course Description

Grade 9 ELA classes will utilize the Odell Education High School Literacy Program which “inspires creativity, builds knowledge, and enhances the skills students possess through student-centered and student-led analyses of robust texts and topics. Our instructional units empower students to pose questions, inquire deeply, reflect, and evolve as independent thinkers and engaged participants in a learning community. We firmly root literacy in texts and ideas: students explore texts worth reading and ideas worth considering” ([Odell Program Guide](#)).

Independent Reading-

We will commence an Independent Reading Program in which we choose texts to read independently as we progress through the units. We will learn how to choose texts, what activities we may complete, about the final task, and about any materials we will use as we read our independent reading texts.

Course Materials

1. Notebook (digital or spiral)
2. Folder/binder for handouts/references
3. Pens or pencils
4. Copy of school-issued “reader” (will be returned at the end of the year)
5. Fully charged school-issued computer
6. Independent Reading Book

Grading Policy

Final average is calculated using this formula:

$45\% Q1 + 45\% Q2 + 10\% \text{ Exam} = \text{Semester 1}$

$45\% Q1 + 45\% Q2 + 10\% \text{ Exam} = \text{Semester 2}$

$\text{Semester 1} + \text{Semester 2} = \text{Final Average for Year-Long Class}$

Final average will be calculated based on weighted points of the following task types:

Summative Assessments (end of unit assessment of skills)

Interim Assessments (during unit assessment of skill progress)

Formative (ungraded snapshots of progress for instructional planning)

Exam (a midterm and final will be given)

Anchor task (one assessment per semester focused on one of the WHS pillars)

Classroom Expectations and Consequences

Class rules and expectations will be set as a classroom community in the form of norms.

All Westerly High School rules for student conduct and consequences, such as cheating, as delineated in the [WPS Student Expectations Handbook](#), apply at all times.



Work Ethic

Work Ethic is a set of values centered on the importance of doing work and reflected especially in a desire or determination to work hard. Students with a positive work ethic tend to perform well. Likewise, students who do not pass English (64 -), will either have to enroll in summer school (if they have a 50-64) or repeat ninth-grade English in the following year while also enrolled in tenth-grade English class.

Phone Policy (According to the WHS Handbook)

A student may possess a **Cell Phone** (an electronic communication device (ECD) including but not limited to cellular phones) in school provided that during school hours the device remains silent/turned off. Violations of this policy will result in confiscation of the cellular telephone or electronic communication device and disciplinary action.

Late work

Regarding Class Work or Homework

It is the expectation that all work is turned in by the established due date. Students with unexcused absences are expected to submit work **electronically**, on time. Excused absences allow a student up to five **school** days, whether A days or B days, to complete missing work. All tasks are expected to be electronically submitted on the due date.

****Students are expected to use the Advisory Block, the WIN time, and Class time efficiently.**

This expectation is integral to student learning.

Makeups/Absences

All make-up work (due to an excused absence) will be completed within a reasonable amount of time (as agreed between teacher and student). When absent, please go to the class slideshow to remain current.

Academic Integrity

Westerly Public Schools recognizes the need for all students to assume responsibility for their own work. Academic integrity must be preserved not only for its own sake but also to ensure an objective evaluation of all students. Cheating and plagiarism in any form cannot be permitted; downloading and copying information from websites without appropriate citations is prohibited*. In a case that involves cheating, *All Westerly High School rules for student conduct and consequences, as delineated in the [WPS Student Expectations Handbook](#) will apply.*

Monitor your Progress

Students are responsible for using the Skyward student portal to monitor their grades throughout the year.

The following is the course's Odell Education Year-at-a-Glance.

Unit	Central Question	Culminating Task	Text
Foundation	Who Changes the World?	Group Presentation & Narrative Reflection	Unit Text Set
The Odyssey	What does it mean to be Powerful?	Explanatory essay	<i>The Odyssey</i>
Romeo & Juliet	Why do we still read Shakespeare?	Literary Analysis	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
Application	What do I want to research?	Portfolio & Group Presentation	Unit Text Set



PhotoJournalism

How do images change the world?

Expository Essay

Unit Text Set

***NOTE: Additional independent reading is required in Grade 9.**

***NOTE:** The order/number of units may shift as needed.

***NOTE:** Text sets are found in the “Reader” and additional digital resources will be provided on the daily class slideshow.