English Lang Arts Syllabus

Course Description: My name is Ms. Hayani, and I am thrilled to welcome you to our Puente English class! This year, we will strengthen some of the most essential skills for your academic success and beyond. Together, we will build our literacy, critical thinking, and communication abilities by learning to identify and analyze central claims, support ideas with strong textual evidence, and explore the deeper meaning behind a variety of works. We'll engage with diverse genres—including novels, short stories, autobiographies, and personal narratives. As a Puente class, we will also focus on building your voice as confident readers, writers, and leaders who can make meaningful contributions both inside and outside the classroom.

Contact Info: For any questions or personal inquiries, you may reach me at my email **nhayani@newarkunified.org**

Classroom Norms:

- ***Required Materials: Composition notebook, pencils (pens accepted during in-class essays), current assigned novel***
- Respect and kindness to your peers will shape how this class operates.
- Promptness is taken very seriously as every minute of class is valuable. Frequent tardiness may result in a one-on-one conversation outside of class as well as detention.
- Drinks and food should not be consumed during class sessions. Water is acceptable.
- **Makeup/Redos:** Students can make up work missed due to absence during office hours, speak with me before/after school or email to schedule a time.
- **Late Work Policy**: Assignments will have a 48 hour window built in without any penalty or any notice. After 48 hours, the assignment will be closed. If there are emergencies or extraneous circumstances, please email me as soon as possible to set up a conference.
- Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Plagiarism or any form of cheating will result in a zero as well as a phone call home. Multiple offenses will lead to an office visit.

Procedures:

- Every student should be seated when the bell rings at the start of class, a student walking to their seat or in class conversations out of their seat will still be marked tardy.
- **Requirements to participate in Puente graduation:** 20 Puente points earned through volunteering & attending community/school events, 2.0 GPA + passing with a C or better in this class, following behavior expectations as a Newark Middle student
- **Bathroom policy:** Students can use the restroom when they need after signing out on bathroom log and taking the bathroom pass with them.

Evaluation Scale		**Grade Breakdown**		**Student signature:**
A	90-100%	Essays	25%	
B	80-89%	Classwork	30%	
C	70-79%	Socratic Seminars	20%	**Parent signature:**
D	60-69%	Projects	25%	
F	59 - <%			