

Ms Winokur
English Language Arts Syllabus 2016-2017

Contact info:

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Welcome to ELA! I am so excited to meet and get to know you and all of the amazing stories and skills you have. We will be doing a lot of reading and writing in this class. It is therefore essential that you have the following materials and bring them to class **every day**.

□ A notebook. I would prefer this kind:



(rather than spiral-bound)

□ Sharpened pencils or pens.

□ An independent reading book.

If you forget any of these tools, you will need to immediately find a substitute without my help.

Bathroom: School rules state that you may **not** use the bathroom in the first OR last 10 minutes of class. Between those times, you should use the bathroom as you need. Please be conscious of when you leave, you are responsible for figuring out what you missed while you were taking care of business.

Library: I have a classroom library, available to you at: <http://winokur.libib.com/>. I will show you how to search and check out books through the libib app, it's easy. If you forget a book at home you are welcome to one of mine, please make sure you check it out if you take it home!

Homework: You are expected to read for at least 30 minutes every night, and record the reading you do each night in a reading log. I will check your reading log weekly in a reading conference. You should be reading books you love and are excited by of any genre, as long as there are more words than pictures. You will also be responsible for writing at least 2 entries about your reading every week. I will show you many different ways that you can do this in class, and you will be graded on the quality and quantity of writing weekly.

Independent work: While you may make the choice to take work home, you should have enough time in class to do all of the work I assign. If you are having trouble doing work in class during our independent work periods, or feel overwhelmed by work, please talk to me as soon as you can, we will work it out together.

Book logs: You may **either** use an iphone/android app for tracking your reading (I recommend you-log but there are others) or a paper log that I will give you in class.

Weekly Schedule: This schedule changes based on which unit we are in, but the basics are:

5-15 minutes- Mini lesson/read aloud.

30 minutes- independent work (teacher confers with one-on-one students or in small groups)

5-10 minutes- reflect and share.

Monday through Thursday will be writer's workshop, Friday is reader's workshop.

Major Projects: Every unit focuses on a different genre of writing and reading. You will take an idea and move it through the writing process, publishing a final piece in each genre. We will be studying the following genres (In this approximate order) over the course of the year: memoir, fiction, informational, argumentative, literary essay/writing in response to text, zines/outsider literature.

Expectations: Show up

Pay attention.

Tell your truth

Be open/take risks