

Course Syllabus for Language A1, English 11
2017 - 2018 School Year – Fall Semester
Instructor: Ms. Baker
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Phone Number (414) 304-6239

Course Description

Language A, Level I, (IB English 11) involves the study of literature, language structure, vocabulary, composition, speech, and poetry. The critical analysis of literature, drama and poetry promotes understanding not only of important societal themes, but, also of the unique styles of the individual authors studied. All course literature is required by the IBO. This course prepares students to take the IB Language A Exam in spring of their senior year. Two internal IB assessments will be completed in this course.

Course Competencies/Core Standards:

- 1. Knowledge and Understanding of Texts**
 - a. understand relationships between work
 - b. understand how literature expresses culture
 - c. know a work's context and its significance
 - d. substantiate ideas w/relevant examples
- 2. Close Reading and Appreciation of Texts**
 - a. analyze language, structure, technique/style; evaluate effects
 - b. engage in independent literary criticism
 - c. examine/discuss literary techniques' effects and connections between style and meaning
- 3. Organization and Development of Communication**

Students will demonstrate:

 - a. ability to express well-organized, coherent, oral and written arguments
 - b. ability to write a sustained, detailed literary commentary
- 4. Use of Language**
 - a. ability to express ideas clearly/fluent in written/oral communication with effective choice of register/style
 - b. command of terminology/concepts for study of literature

Ronald Wilson Reagan College Preparatory High School Grading Policy

As an International Baccalaureate School, the purpose of assessment at Reagan is to measure student progress toward proficiency of the Middle Years Program or Diploma Program criteria. Students are presented with the objectives (standards) of the course and offered multiple opportunities to provide evidence of mastery towards them. This goal is to ensure that students are well prepared for the IB exams that they take at the end of their senior year. These exams require high level thinking skills, as well as an understanding of the world around us on a local, national and international level. Students who achieve well in classes at Reagan as well as on the IB exams graduate with a huge advantage over other students. Reagan students are well prepared for the rigor of college and life itself. Students receiving grades of 4 or

above on IB exams (on a scale of 1-7) are eligible for college credit depending on which institution they choose to continue their studies. Students will be provided:

- Clear expectations
- A rubric addressing the evaluation of the task and assessing mastery of the objective (standard)
- The opportunity to practice with no penalties attached to the practice
- Descriptive feedback that will address where the student started and their progress toward meeting the objective.

Students will receive one of the following grades for their evidence (quizzes, tests, projects, papers, labs, presentations, oral commentaries, anecdotal observations and more):

Advanced: The student exhibits exceptional mastery of the course objective.

Proficient: The student provides evidence of mastery of the course objective.

Basic: The student provides evidence of a beginning understanding of the course objective.

Minimal: The student attempts the task but provides no evidence of mastery of the objective described.

As new evidence is collected, scores on old evidence are replaced, providing a cycle of continuous improvement and monitoring. This system produces high levels of student engagement in learning and ensures that the final grade actually reports what the students know and how well they perform the objectives/standards. If there are extenuating circumstances, the teacher may choose to exempt a piece of evidence if he/she believes the evidence does not accurately show what the student currently knows or is able to do. There is no penalty for low performance at the beginning of studying an objective; students are assessed on their highest level attained in the process, not an average of all grades. This focus on continuous improvement helps to build self efficacy in all students. Students with IEPs and English Language Learners are judged against the same subject specific rigorous assessment criteria. However, their assessment tasks will be modified based on their individualized educational plan (IEP).

Student Progress:

I will update Infinite Campus at least twice a month with both practice and evidence grades included. In addition. Student progress reports or report cards are sent home every 4-5 weeks. Continuous monitoring of student progress is available through Infinite Campus. Minimal, Basic, Proficient and Advanced grades will be converted into a numeric value and then translated into the traditional A, B, C, D, U grades for reports. **See chart below**

Common Scale	Regular Education Meaning	Percentage Conversion	Special Education Meaning	Classic Report Card Grade Conversion
AD	Advanced or 4	100 (90-100)	Achieving beyond IEP goals	A

PR	Proficient or 3	85 (70-89)	Achieving IEP goals	80-89 - B
BA	Basic or 2	65 (51-69)	Achieving below IEP goals	D
MI	Minimal or 1	50 (1-50)	Present, but no effort	U
0	No evidence	0	N/A	U

Re-Take/Make-Up Policy - The new 21st Century Grading Policy asserts that students should be given the opportunity to fix mistakes on submitted evidence. This DOES NOT ALLOW FOR STUDENTS TO SUBMIT WORK LATE. The following process will be the re-take policy for Ms. Baker's Assessments.

1. In order to have the opportunity to redo an assignment, you need show that all the homework from the unit has been completed and submit it prior to completing the redo assessment. It is your responsibility to hold onto the practice and present it before taking the redo.
2. All redos or make-up assessments must be completed within a one-week period after the assessment has been returned to the class. No re-takes will be allowed after that time frame. This is for your benefit – it is too difficult to be working on current assignments while making up older work.
3. Re-takes/make-ups must be scheduled with Ms. Baker ahead of time. She is available during junior ELO and before school.

Standards Based Grading Vocabulary:

1. A “DO” – To complete a “DO”, you complete the assignment when it is assigned and submit it on or before the due date.
2. A “REDO” – To complete a “REDO”, you complete the assignment when it is assigned and submit it on or before the due date. You are unhappy with your score and complete a redo of the assignment within a week after the class has received the graded assignment. You also have provided evidence that you completed all the practice associated with this assignment.
3. A “DO DO” (Ms. Baker does NOT like “DO DO”) – To complete a “DO DO”, you submit a late assignment prior to the “REDO” deadline. “DO DO” assignments CANNOT BE REDONE, so make sure you are confident in what you submit.

Approaches to Learning

In all Reagan courses students will be evaluated on the following IB approaches to learning:

- Self-management
- Social
- Communication
- Thinking
- Research

Students will earn scores of Exceeding, Meeting, In Progress and Limited Progress based on their demonstration of the Approaches to Learning through class activities including the following:

- Participation in classwork and discussions
- Timely completion of practice, evidence and retakes
- Collaboration and communication in group activities
- Appropriate preparation for class evidences, projects and IB Exams

Student Progress

1. All assignments will be to students the date they are assigned and via Ms. Baker's Weebly at www.msbaker-reagan@weebly.com.
2. Infinite Campus – allows parents/students to view grades and other needed information. Please contact the Reagan office if you need access to Infinite Campus.

Preparation

Remember, it is your responsibility to come to each class prepared. This means not just bringing the required books, but also having completed all reading and written assignments. You are required to keep and maintain a daily planner to record all assignments and important due dates.

Writing Process

Students will be required to write thesis support essays using the writing process following the steps of Brainstorming, Drafting, Revising, Peer Revision, Editing, Peer Editing, and submitting a Final Draft. Each of these steps of the writing process except the Final Draft will receive a grade for completion (subject to the late penalty), and the Final Draft will be evaluated grammar, logic, and depth of analysis.

Materials Needed for Class

***All materials for class must be dedicated to this English class.**

- One Notebook or Binder – Used for in-class journal assignments and class notes.
- Pen and Pencil
- Texts, as needed
- A folder for saving all of your work, including your drafts of essays and other assignments.

Course Layout —layout cites major works to be completed. Please be aware that there will be several smaller assignments and possible quizzes for each topic listed. Please note that each semester is divided into three, six-week units.

Semester One:

Unit One - Pablo Neruda Poetry

- Interactive Oral Presentation
- Reflective Statement
- Supervised Writing
- Neruda Poetry Annotation

Unit Two - *The Sand Child*

- Interactive Oral Presentation
- Reflective Statement
- Supervised Writing
- Quote Analysis
- Daily Class Socratic Seminars Participation

Unit Three - *Fieba's Child*

- Interactive Oral Presentation
- Reflective Statement
- Supervised Writing
- Class debates

Classroom Rules

1. Be Respectful (this includes not using your electronic devices in class when others are teaching and you are supposed to be learning).
2. Be Responsible (this includes coming to class on time, prepared to learn).
3. Be Safe (this includes not having ear-buds in your ears while you are walking through the hallways so that you can hear what is happening around you).
4. Submit work on time

Corrective Actions

1. First time a student breaks a rule: Reminder or one-on-one conference.
2. Second time: permanent change and parent contact.
3. Third time: Parent contact and send to administrator
4. Severe cause: Parent contact and send to administrator (threats or endangering the lives of those around you). This includes breaking IB and Reagan rules on plagiarism.

ELECTRONICS RULE - Electronics are an everyday part of life, but can be a distraction in class. It is important for students to learn Electronic Etiquette. Students will be allowed to use electronics when it benefits their learning (to document homework in an electronic calendar or listen to music when they are working individually on an essay or other individual assignment). Students may NOT use electronics during class discussions, lectures, activities, etc. It is rude and unprofessional for students to use electronics when they are interacting with other people. For safety reasons, students will NOT be allowed to use electronics in the hallway at school, either during passing time or during class. Our hallways at Reagan are exceptionally crowded and for safety reasons, students need to be able to hear announcements or people talking to them in the hallways. This is hampered when students are wearing earphones. I expect that parents/guardians will discuss these policies with their students and be supportive of this policy and not contact students on their cell phones during the day and expect a response.

PLAGIARISM - Plagiarism is the act of using another individual's words or thoughts and passing them off as one's own. Copying down one sentence or an entire paper is considered plagiarism. Any paper that contains any plagiarized material will receive a zero. If you are uncertain about incorporating

resource material into your paper, ask before submitting your paper. Please see Reagan IB's Academic Honesty Policy for more details.

-Please note that if you allow another student to copy your work both of students will receive a zero on that assignment and face disciplinary action. The second offense of plagiarism/copying may result is a U for the semester.

FINAL NOTE

With your help and support, students can look forward to an exciting and productive semester at Ronald Reagan High School. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to call me at 304-6239 or email bakercx@milwaukee.k12.wi.us. I will reply to your call or email at my earliest convenience.

**Parent/Guardian
Student Acknowledgement Form
Please return this portion to Ms. Baker**

We have received, read, and understand the course syllabus and the expectations for the HL (High Level) Literature I Course.

This form is the first piece of evidence and due on or before August 18.

Name of Student (Printed)

Signature of Student

Name of Parent/Guardian

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Email Address (Preferred)

Phone Number (Cell Preferred)

Parent Question:

1 Please explain one thing about your student you would like me to know.