

2018-2019



7th Grade English Syllabus and Expectations

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Welcome & Introduction

Welcome to 7th grade English and to Daphne Middle School. While this is my ninth year teaching, this will be my first year at DMS; and I look forward to learning all about life at DMS with you as you begin your middle school journey. We have a lot to accomplish and even more to look forward to this year. I'm so thrilled to be embarking on this adventure with you.

There are many ways we will keep in touch. During the school day, we will be busy in the classroom, so please feel free to email me at jtillman@bcbe.org. I routinely check my email throughout the day, so please understand that while your messages are very important to me that I dedicate my full attention to the students during class periods. I will make every effort to respond as quickly as I can.

Our class will also use Remind 101 to communicate important news and updates. You can sign up for this by texting "@dmsjt" to 81010 or by emailing dmsjt@mail.remind.com.

Our class will also have activities and tasks managed through a Google classroom. More information about this will be shared in the coming weeks.

Course Description

This year we will further our understanding and strive for mastery in the areas of grammar, composition, vocabulary, reading, and literature. Our grammar activities will focus on reinforcing knowledge of the eight parts of speech. Our writing activities will focus on developing our skills both creatively and analytically through paragraph, essay, and research writing. Our literature studies will emphasize both reading comprehension and critical thinking skills. The class will be taught in accordance with College and Career Ready (CCRS) standards as required by Alabama State Law.

Class Expectations

In this class, students will work with partners, groups, and individually as assigned for a variety of tasks and activities. Students are expected to demonstrate both respect for themselves and for others at all times. Students are expected to make mistakes, but to be open to seeing those experiences as learning opportunities. Students are expected give their best effort and to ask questions. Students are expected to share their own thoughts and ideas and listen attentively to the thoughts and ideas of others.

Grading Procedures

Students will have grades updated weekly in INow each weekend. Students are expected to monitor their grades and set goals for themselves based on their academic performance. If a student is failing or in danger of failing, a conference will be scheduled to come up with solutions to ensure the student's academic success.

Gradebook Categories & Percentages

60% - Assessments
40% - Classwork

Grading Scale

89.5-100	A
79.5-89.4	B
69.5-79.4	C
59.5-69.4	D
59.4 and below	F

Make-Up Work Guidelines:

According to school district policy, if an absence is excused, the student will have 3 days to make up missed work without penalty. Please refer to your student handbook for more information on excused and unexcused absences.

Students are responsible for asking for late work and for scheduling a time to make up missing work. They may need to come to my classroom during their break time to make up missed assignments.

Supplies:

There will not be a physical textbook used for this class. Instead, students will use class sets of novels, handouts, and digital copies to complete assignments. The student **Chromebook** must be charged and brought to class each day. Many assignments will be turned in through the Chromebooks using Google Classroom. It is recommended to have a **large binder** with **dividers** and **lined paper**. This can be used for multiple classes. There are no student lockers, so it is wise to travel light. Other recommended supplies are **3 highlighters**, **index cards**, and **pens/pencils**.

Additional Notes:

Please note that this syllabus is subject to changes at any point during the school year. Such changes will be communicated through Remind 101 and Google Classroom as appropriate.

If you have any behavioral or learning concerns that you feel need to be shared, please contact the school to schedule a conference as soon as possible. The school number is 251-626-2845.

Please take a few moments to sign and return the contact and release form attached to this syllabus.

Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of your year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Tillman

Syllabus Acknowledgment & Release Form

Please sign and return this page of the syllabus.

Syllabus Acknowledgement:

I have read the syllabus for this course and understand the classroom expectations.

Student Name: _____ Period: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Release:

My child, _____, has my permission to be photographed and/or videoed for social media purposes at Daphne Middle School during the 2018-2019 school year.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Contact information:

Preferred Contact:

Name: _____

Relationship to student: _____

Email: _____

Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Preferred Method of Contact During the Day: ___ Email ___ Work Phone ___ Cell Phone

Preferred Method of Contact During the Evening (After 4:00): ___ Email ___ Work Phone ___ Cell Phone