

English 9 Class Disclosure

Welcome to ELA!



My name is Christopher Baguley, and I'm excited for the opportunity to be an English teacher at Dixie Middle School this year! This will be my tenth year working in education, and every year brings a new adventure that I look forward to embarking on with my students. I'm excited to share new experiences, create lasting memories, and continue learning and growing alongside my students throughout the year.

Class Purpose

The purpose of this class is to help students develop strong reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills through literature, discussion, and composition. Students will learn the three major modes of writing, reading strategies, grammar skills, and critical-thinking techniques that will help them become stronger communicators, evaluators, and problem solvers.

What will we read?

- *The Outsiders* and more. . .
- Short stories
- Poetry
- Informational texts
- Various multimedia and film excerpts

What will students be writing?

- Narratives
- Expository essays
- Argumentative essays
- Poems
- Short screenplays / movie scenes
- Academic and creative writing pieces

What else should you know about this course?

This course blends structured skill development with project-based, creative application. And throughout the year, students will complete a variety of creative projects that will allow students to apply reading, writing, speaking, and critical thinking skills in meaningful and engaging ways. That said, students will learn core principles of academic writing and specific reading skills and strategies to help develop their reading abilities.

Required Materials

- Pen or pencil
- Reading book
- Optional binder or folder specific for ELA

Communication

Please feel free to contact me at **christopher.baguley@washk12.org** if you ever have questions or concerns. Email is the best way to reach me, and I check it regularly during business days.

From time to time, you may also receive announcements from me through PowerSchool or Canvas. However, if you need to contact me directly, email is the fastest and most reliable method of communication.

During school hours, all urgent communications should be made through the school's front office.

Grades

30% — Assignments

70% — Essential Standard Assessments

Grades will be updated regularly throughout the term. Students are expected to submit their best work and complete assignments by the posted due dates.

Late Work: I will accept assignments after the due date. However, late work will receive a 10% deduction and will generally only be accepted for up to two weeks after the original due date.

If students or parents ever have questions or concerns about grades, please feel free to contact me via email.

Cell Phones

To maintain a focused and distraction-free learning environment as well as be in compliance with school policy and state laws, cell phones are not to be used in class.

If exceptions are ever allowed for a specific activity, students will be informed ahead of time. However, personal device use will not be the norm during instructional time.

If a student is using a phone, the device may be confiscated according to classroom and school policy.

During school hours, all communications should be made through the school's front office.

Tardies

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and be ready to work. Being punctual helps students develop strong habits, avoid missing important instruction, and maintain a positive learning environment for everyone in the classroom.

Additionally, students who have fewer than five tardies and meet other established criteria, as determined by the school, may earn an early lunch.

Because we start class with bell work, students who arrive late may miss points that can't be fully made up. These activities are designed to help students transition into the lesson ahead.

English 8 Class Disclosure

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What will we read?

- *Freak the Mighty and more . . .*
- Short stories
- Poetry
- Informational texts
- Various multimedia and film excerpts

What will students be writing?

- Narratives
- Expository essays
- Argumentative essays
- Poems
- Short screenplays and movie scenes
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Because we begin class with daily starter activities, students who arrive late may miss points that cannot be fully made up. These activities are designed to help students transition into learning and prepare for the day's lesson.

