

Patrick Henry Middle School
Eighth Grade English, Language Arts, and Reading
2017-2018 Syllabus (First four weeks 9/11-10/7)
T.E.A.M.

Eighth Grade ELA team: B. Hamilton, K. Armstrong, J. Gipson
Parent meeting Hours: By Appointment
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Course URL: From www.houstonisd.org/henryms

COURSE DESCRIPTION

English Language Arts and Reading (ELAR) is a core content area taught not only to pass the STAAR test and master the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, but also to function within our society in a **positive manner**. The ELAR teachers will follow the Henry’s Tenacity, Excellence, Achievement, and Motivation standards in providing a well-rounded **learning atmosphere** for every Scholar. This course will provide the **knowledge and skills needed** to increase the Scholar’s ability to communicate, process, and understand a higher order of thinking; preparing them to operate in today’s society.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/COMPETENCIES:

Reading, Writing, Vocabulary, and Listening/Speaking Objectives
Scholars will apply the practices and routines to a Reading and Writing workshop while exploring who they are as Readers and Writers. Scholars will examine narrative text, including fiction and literary non-fiction, while building their knowledge of the Reading process. In the Writing workshop, Scholars will examine Writing guides and the writing process to be able to craft personal narratives featuring their own developed ideas as well as respond to questions in well thought out manner.

REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS/ACTIVITIES

1. Scholars will be required to participate in independent reading activities.
2. Scholars will master/meet the eighth (8th) grade ELAR TEKS.
3. Scholars are expected to attend and participate in all discussions and activities as assigned by the teacher.
4. Scholars will be required to keep an interactive notebook.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is expected and required. It is the scholars’ responsibility to check with their teachers **daily** for missing announcements and assignments. Assignments will always be posted in the classroom in the event a scholar will be absent.

EVALUATION CRITERIA	PERCENTAGES
Daily Grades	40%
Quizzes	15%
Test and Projects	35%
Homework	10%
Percentile-Grade	
Blue= Mastery	100-90
Green= Meets Grade Level Expectations	89-80
Yellow= Approaching	79-60
Red= Not met yet	59-0

Make-up Work

Scholars will be allowed to make-up tests, quizzes or class work once notification/documentation of the absence has been submitted.

CLASS POLICIES

- Scholars are expected to follow the guidelines for writing the assignments provided for each assignment.
- All assignments will include: the header on the first page of your assignment will contain a descriptive title for the paper/assignment in the **top right-hand corner**: your name, ELAR (period), Assignment title, and date.
Example: Jose Gonzalez
ELAR- Period 4
Expository Essay
September 1, 2017
- Scholars have an option to turn in assignments either on paper or electronically. All electronic assignments are to be submitted through the google docs. Name the files that you send to the instructor according to the number of assignment. Example: Your last name_first name_period_title:
Example: Gonzalez_Jose_P4_Expository Essay
- Each assignment should be submitted **BY THE DUE DATE** to obtain full credit. Late assignments will receive full credit only when legitimate reasons (example- illness, religious observances, etc.) warrant the lateness. Such arrangements should be made in advance with the teacher. *For assignments turned in late that do not meet the above conditions, 10 points will be deducted for each day an assignment is handed in late.* In addition, the instructor reserves the right to add additional reading assignments, or **mandatory after school tutorials**.
- Academic Expectations:** All Scholars are expected to maintain professional behavior, which includes the highest standard of integrity and honesty. For a Scholar to be promoted to the next

grade level, an overall yearly average of 70 or above is required for all courses. If a Scholar misses more than the allowable days of school, and does not complete make-up work for days missed, course grade(s) will result in no grade (NG), which may result in retention in the current grade level. This policy will assist the scholar to be successful in this course. Please contact the teacher should you have any questions.