



Literacy Lab

Course Description

The goal for Literacy Lab is to provide additional support and intervention to students enrolled in English Language Arts 9. This course will provide students with supplemental practice as they build their foundation of knowledge and strengthen their reading comprehension, writing fluency, and grammatical competency. In Literacy Lab, students will further their practice and exposure with the various classical and contemporary narrative and informational texts that they will be introduced to in English Language Arts 9. The narrative and informational texts will also connect WMAA students to their passion – aviation. Ninth graders will connect with and respond to texts by analyzing relationships within and across families, communities, societies, governments, and economies. Through the lens of Inter-Relationships and Self-Reliance, they will consider how they build relationships, how their relationships impact others, and their responsibility to society. Throughout the year WMAA students will see the importance of effective communication in aviation as well as identify the aviation connections to our narrative and informational texts.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, WMAA students will be able to:

- Sustain independent silent reading for increasing increments of time.
- Record reading progress and comprehension in an organized log and meet with teacher to discuss progress.
- Identify the nine major parts of speech.
- Write complete sentences and revise their own writing for sentence correctness.
- Write using varied sentence structures, such as compound, complex, and compound-complex.
- Use MLA format correctly.
- Identify and use aspects of author's craft in descriptive writing.
- Write emails utilizing professional language and format.
- Write instructions and create visuals for completing a complex task.
- Write a persuasive essay with supporting evidence.
- Develop and process write an original short story based on a universal theme.
- Participate in academic talk in pairs, small groups, and with a large group.
- Set learning goals and regularly self-assess progress at designated checkpoints.
- Participate in writing workshop by giving feedback to peers and revising their own writing based on received feedback.
- Journal regularly during writing time.
- Problem-solve in small group discussions and assess personal performance by analyzing group dynamics.

- Investigate a community issue, using multiple resources and design an authentic project to promote social action.
- Read contemporary realistic fiction to understand literary elements of novels, films, and poetry.
- Read, view, and listen to classic, contemporary, and multicultural texts to describe archetypal characters and human experiences in literature.
- Read epic poetry to construct meaning and analyze for literary structure and historical and cultural context.
- Read narrative, informational, and technical texts to build metacognitive skills and construct meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary, using syntax, text cues, and roots and affixes.
- Keep and maintain a portfolio of written work showing revisions, drafts, improvements, and learning.

Textbooks and Resources

Since Literacy Lab will closely parallel ELA 9, many of the same texts are used, including but not limited to:

- *Literature*, Holt McDougal
- *To Kill a Mockingbird*
- *Romeo and Juliet*
- *The Odyssey*
- *Sadlier-Oxford Vocabulary Level D*
- *Daily Oral Grammar*

Grades

Students will earn a final grade each semester based on mastery of the course objectives. The cumulative semester course work will comprise 20% of the final semester grade, and assessment and projects will comprise 60% of the final semester grade. A cumulative semester exam grade will comprise 20% of the final semester grade. The final semester grade will be used in determining a student's grade point average (GPA).

West Michigan Aviation Academy Grading Scale		
Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Point
A	95-100%	4.0
A-	90-94%	3.7
B+	87-89%	3.3
B	83-86%	3.0
B-	80-82%	2.7
C+	77-79%	2.3

C	73-76%	2.0
C-	70-72%	1.7
F	0-69%	0.0
INC	Incomplete Coursework	N/A

Coursework & Academic Integrity

WMAA is committed to providing opportunities for students to show mastery of academic standards. All assignments must be completed before class begins. Larger assignments (papers, unit assessments, etc.) are due regardless of whether or not you are in school that day. In such circumstances, you may email the assignment. Communication will occur frequently between teachers, students, and their parent/guardian concerning missing work. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the teacher to determine the action plan to deal with extensive missing work.

If coursework is not turned in on time, a zero will be recorded in the grade book until the work is submitted. This zero will be accompanied in the grade book with a "missing" marker so that the reason for the zero is evident. If the allowable time period to make up the work has passed, the zero will become a permanent grade.

There are exceptions to the above for extenuating circumstances. Keep your teachers in the loop. Sometimes life happens, and when it does, be proactive and seek a solution. If you are genuinely concerned that you will not be able to complete something on time, seek me out before, not after, and together we can develop a way for you to successfully complete the work.

All plagiarism is taken seriously. Any three consecutive words from another person's work must be cited properly. Copying from another's work (peer or published author) will not be tolerated and will result in dismissal of the assignment's credit for any participating parties for a first offense. See overall school policy for information about further offenses.

Classroom Policies

1. Respect others, the teacher, yourself, and the material. We all benefit when we feel valued and respected, so listen when others are speaking, treat the material and the classroom with dignity and maturity, and respect yourself by putting forth the best you possess.
2. Participate as much as possible and do not be afraid to risk being wrong. We often learn the most from making a few mistakes and taking the risk of having the wrong answer.
3. Leave food, drinks (apart from water), phones, and iPods outside of the classroom. No cell phones or other electronics unless otherwise indicated by me. Please keep Chromebooks tucked away until given instruction to have them open and on.
4. Be organized: Arrive on time with all the necessary materials. "On time" means in your

seat, ready to learn when the bell rings. Use the bathroom, drinking fountains, and lockers between classes.

5. Gratuitous profanity in speech and in writing is unacceptable. Students are expected and encouraged to find clean, creative, grammatically sound ways of voicing disapproval, etc.
6. All rules, including uniform, in the student handbook will be enforced.

Attendance & Tardies

Attendance: It is very important to be in class, as each day's content builds on the previous day's work. When you are absent, it is your responsibility to get your missed work and set up a time to meet with me to clear up any confusion. For each day of class missed, students are allowed one day to make up the missed work. All work turned in late must be accompanied by a note explaining why it is late (so that I know that it is late due to absence). Any time a student misses class, it is encouraged that they check the course website to see what was done in class that day so that they are aware of what will need to be done to catch up. Students absent on the date of a test or a quiz must make up tests and quizzes as soon as possible, at the latest within two days of return except in the case of long-term absences.

Tardiness: All students are expected to be in their assigned classroom as the final bell sounds. Any student that comes to class after the bell, but within the first 10 minutes of class will be marked tardy for that class period. Any student arriving more than 10 minutes late to a class will be considered absent for that class period. As this is the first class of the day, please make arrangements to ensure you will be at school and in your first hour class on time. Habitual tardiness will be dealt with between the teacher, the student, and his or her family. If the problem persists, further conversations will occur between Mr. Fisher, the student, and his or her family to determine a plan of action to correct the behavior.

Character

Additionally, students will be evaluated on their character choices for each course. The character evaluation will reflect student mastery of WMAA's critical character expectations: be respectful, be responsible and do your personal best.

3 – Exceeding Expectations

2 – Meeting Expectations

1 – Currently Not Meeting Expectations

Resources

Gradebook - Powerschool Login: <http://ps.westmichiganaviation.org/public/>

Literacy Lab Classroom Website: <http://stanley15.weebly.com/>

West Michigan Aviation Academy Website: <http://www.westmichiganaviation.org>