

7th Grade Language Arts Syllabus—D’Anunzio

My name is Mr. D’Anunzio, and I welcome you to your 7th grade Language Arts course. I am excited to begin our reading and writing adventure together. Remember, I am here for you. Please let me know how I can assist you this year with any areas of need. Don’t be shy to ask for help throughout the year as well.

You know from your experience in school that reading, writing, inquiry, organization and collaboration are very important to your success in school. We will be doing a lot of all five. In addition, we will be fine tuning your test taking skills. I know this all sounds like a lot of work, and it will be. However, please remember that we are in this process together. By the way, if you have any suggestions regarding projects or lessons, let me know. I just might use your idea! Don’t ever forget that you have potential; you are smart.

Year at a Glance: (Together, we can! 😊)

Quarter One: Bold Actions: In this collection, students will read literary and informational texts that explore what it means to face challenges fearlessly, even if it means failing in the attempt. In response to reading, students will have the opportunity to write an argumentative essay about the bold actions of daring individuals, the risks, and the rewards of those individuals using information found in selections from the collection. **“Be bold, take courage...and be strong of soul.” – Ovid**

Quarter Two: Perception and Reality: In this collection, students will read literary and informational texts that explore how things in life are not always how we perceive them to be. In response to reading, students will write an argumentative essay expressing their opinion of the saying, “Seeing is believing”, using information found in selections from the collection. **“Now I do not know whether it was then I dreamt I was a butterfly, or whether I am now a butterfly dreaming I am a man.” – Chuang Tzu**

Quarter Three: Risk and Exploration: In this collection, students will read literary and informational texts that consider the risks of exploration in extreme conditions and present an argument whether it is worth the costs. In response to reading, students will have the opportunity to write an argumentative speech persuading others whether major exploration is worth the risk, using information found in selections from the collection and their own research. TEDx talks will be this quarter. **“All adventures, especially into new territory, are scary.” – Sally Ride**

Quarter Four: Guided by a Cause. In this collection, students will read literary and informational texts that consider the question: What inspires people to act to improve their world? In response to reading, students will have the opportunity to write an informational essay about a dramatic and deadly fire that destroyed a New York City factory in 1911, using information found in selections from the collection and their own research. **“The fullness of our heart comes in our actions.” –Mother Teresa**

Classroom Expectations:

1. Come to class on time.
2. At the beginning of class, please make sure your cell phone is in your backpack and at the front of the room unless I tell you otherwise.
3. Please have your binder out on your desk (first thing) before you put your cell phone in your back pack, and place it at the front of room.
4. Be respectful to yourself, others and school property. Treat everyone with kindness.
5. Please listen quietly and attentively when a teacher or a student is talking.
6. Always do your best and give each lesson/assignment good effort.
7. At the end of the period, please make sure the room is clean and books are put away before you leave.
8. Please remember that the teacher dismisses you, not the bell. This includes not standing at the door before the end of the class.

Consequences for not Following Classroom Expectations:

1. Verbal warning.
2. Note/email/call home—behavior contract.
3. Reflection Writing and Time out.

OVER->

4. ASD (after school detention).
5. Administration Intervention and/or Referral.

Remember, good behavior is rewarded with Pirate Bucks and classroom incentive! ☺

Grading Policy/Catagories:

Assessments, Classroom/Homework, Participation/Organization and Quarterly Checks.

Grading Scale: 100%-90%=A, 89%-80%=B, 79%-70%=C, 69%-60%=D, 59% and below=F.

Late Work Policy Including Homework:

I encourage you to turn in your work on time. If you are always turning in your work late, then you will not be able to participate in the class incentive (see handout), which is at the end of each month.

Check the classroom board during the day for homework. Please make sure that you write down any work in your planner. **The homework site is also available.** Check the bottom of this page for web site address.

myStudent Account and Make Up Work:

It is your responsibility to continually check myStudent (at least twice a week—check bottom of this page for myStudent web site address) for any graded assignments, especially if you have been absent. If any work is owed, write down the assignment and bring that information to me. I will then give you what you are missing. For any make up classwork, please check my homework site (homework site link is listed below). Please see me with any questions or concerns. Remember, monitoring and maintaining your grades are part of being a responsible student. I have computers in the classroom that are Internet ready, so keeping track of your grades (even if you don't have a computer at home) is no problem. If you have any questions, please see me. Keep in mind that if you generally turn in work late, that that could disqualify you from our classroom incentive. Late work can only be turned in within the grading period (quarter) it is assigned.

Supplies: The following supplies will be needed: two folders w/pockets, colored markers (6 or 12 colors), writing paper, color pencils, construction paper (optional), pens, ruler, glue stick, one box of Kleenex (if possible). Poster boards will also be needed for various projects (I usually give a week's notice).

First Novel to be Read: TBA.

Thank you and I look forward to our new school year together!

Wayne D'Anunzio, M.A.
7th Grade Language Arts Instructor
(352) 524-8400

P.S., The best way to reach me is via email.

My email: wdanunzi@pasco.k12.fl.us

myStudent web site: <https://mypascoconnect.pasco.k12.fl.us>

School web site: <http://pms.pasco.k12.fl.us/>

Homework site: <http://connectplus.pasco.k12.fl.us/wdanunzi/7th-grade-language-arts/>

Resources site: <http://connectplus.pasco.k12.fl.us/wdanunzi/>

-----Please return below section to teacher. -----

Student Name PRINTED _____

Parent/Guardian Name PRINTED _____

Parent Contact Phone and Email _____

Student Signature _____ **

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ **

Have signed up for myStudent account (parent initials) _____

**By signing this document, I understand the above terms.