

Grade 11 ELA Transactional Focus - Course Outline

Course overview

Welcome to Transactional Focus ELA! In this course we will spend the majority of our time exploring the use of language for practical purposes (to inform, direct, persuade, plan, analyze and explain); some attention will also be given to aesthetic texts (which enlighten, foster understanding and empathy, reflect culture, express feelings and experiences, and bring enjoyment). In short, this course is about COMMUNICATION.

Some of the activities we may be engaging in include:

<input type="checkbox"/> Persuasive Letter Writing	<input type="checkbox"/> Speech Writing	<input type="checkbox"/> Analyzing Advertising	<input type="checkbox"/> Analyzing Rhetoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Tone
<input type="checkbox"/> Résumés	<input type="checkbox"/> Layout and Design	<input type="checkbox"/> Presentations	<input type="checkbox"/> Academic Writing	<input type="checkbox"/> Research

The texts that we explore will be a mix of classic and contemporary, and will be of a variety of forms, potentially including: documentaries, films, memoirs, media texts, speeches, essays, magazines/journals, novels, etc.

Through this course you will have the opportunity to build upon your ELA skills: reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing and representing. You will also be welcomed to develop and discuss your ideas on a variety of issues, as we explore the opinions of a vast array of commentators, politicians, media outlets, and people in positions of authority.

I am very much looking forward to a year of reading, writing, debating, and discussing together.

ROOM 202 EXPECTATIONS

Routine

1. When you enter the class, please exchange a friendly greeting with me (the teacher).
2. Open up your binder to where we left off, and make sure you have a pen and your choice reading. If you've forgotten something, fix your problem before the class starts (ex: borrow a pen from a classmate, etc.).
3. Check the board to see what we'll be up to for the class.
4. Most classes will begin with choice reading. Get your reading out and start reading without being prompted for the first 10-20 minutes of class.
5. If you need to leave the room, please wait for a good time to put up your hand and ask.
6. Please raise your hand when you want to participate. Turn towards others when they are speaking so they can tell you are listening to them.
7. At times, I will call on you to give a response. Everyone participates in our class.
8. Feel free to doodle on your own scrap paper if that helps you to concentrate.
9. Please clean up your own stuff.
10. Say goodbye to me when you leave at the end of class.

11. Feel free to come talk to me at breaks or arrange lunch meetings if you have questions, want extra help, or need to discuss extensions.
12. Cell phones: Cell phones are to be handed in to the cell phone bin at the start of class. If I notice that you have not handed your phone in to the bin, your phone will go to the office. There may be times when I allow you to use a cell phone to look up information or to listen to music during independent work times. If I notice you using your cell phone without permission, or at an inappropriate time, your phone will go to the office. Further consequences may be instated if you are unable to follow our responsible usage policy.
13. Listening to music: You will be welcome to listen to personal music devices **at times**. These will be times when you are working individually on assignments. You will **not** be permitted to listen to music during lecture/class discussion/group work, etc.
14. Name policy: It is my goal to learn all of your names as quickly as possible. If I call you the wrong name after October 1st, you will be compensated (for the damage to your self-esteem 😊) with a candy.

Lates/Absences

1. If you are not in class when the buzzer sounds, you are late. Sneak into the class as quietly as possible, and sign yourself into the late sheet. If you disturb the class when you come in late, you will stay at break. You may also receive a zero for your reading score if you arrive late.
2. If you are absent for any reason it is your responsibility to find out what you missed ASAP and get caught up. Worksheets/handouts will be in the "While you were out" binder. You must make up all assignments missed during an absence, or else they will result in a zero (as per SCI policy).

*If you miss class or arrive late regularly I will ask you to stay after class and we will negotiate a consequence.

If you are unable to attend class when an assignment is due, please contact me to make arrangements.

My school e-mail address is: aokeke@isd21.mb.ca

Mark Breakdown

Term Work: %80

Choice Reading: 10%

Assignments and Projects: 90%

Final Exam: 20%

Weighting of assignments will vary in order to reflect the amount of class time and effort devoted to various tasks. Keeping up with day-to-day activities will help you to keep on track and succeed on larger assignments. Discussion and reflection will also be significant components in this course. Group work may also factor into individual assessment.

The final exam will be modeled after the Grade 12 Provincial exam. You will be informed about the exam date later in the semester.