

Language Arts 11: Graphic Novels, Comics, and Manga

“The Syllabus”

Reynolds High School 2023/24

Teacher: Kevin Helfman Room: 505
Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters) 1 credit
Email: Khelfman@rsd7.net Phone: (503) 667-3186 **Website:**
Schoology

OFFICE HOURS—1st period, before school, afterschool*. Please try and schedule with Mr. Helfman.

Course Description:

Explore literature through the medium of graphic novels, comics, and manga. Analyze the different forms of visual storytelling as a writer, reader, and comic book editor. Discover how comics have evolved and the important role they play in history and cultures.

Recommended Materials for Class (Chromebook and Internet are required)

1. Notebook with lined pages for LA.11 Graphic Novels, Comics, Manga
2. Pencils, Pens, Highlighter
3. Computer with internet access
4. Binder with dividers and pocket folders or have 2 pocket folder

Grading Percentage of Grade Points

- Summative Assignments: Essays, Projects, Presentations: 70%
- Formative Assignments: Classwork, Quizzes, Notes, etc... 25%
- Power—Check-ins: 5%

Grade Percentages:

A= 90-100	The student fully understands the grade level content by exceeding expectations on standards and objectives.
B= 80-89	The student understands the content and course objectives at an above average level.
C= 70-79	The student understands the course content and demonstrates the course objectives by meeting expectations.
D=60-69	The student is close to meeting the grade level content. A minimum of course objectives were met.
F=0-59	The student has not demonstrated an efficient amount of grade level objectives to pass a minimum level and receives no credit.

Scoring Guide on Assignments:

6 points	Mastery
5 points	Exceeds Expectations and close to mastery
4 points	Proficient and meets expectations
3 points	Near Proficient and meeting expectations
2 points	Developing proficiency
1 point	Beginning Proficiency
0	Missing evidence of proficiency or incomplete

Late work/Retake Expectations:

Students that turn in work beyond the due date can receive a lower grade. Each week the assignment is not turned in will reduce the score a full grade. All late work needs to be completed by the end of the quarter for credit.

LATE WORK STEPS:

- a) Send Mr. Helfman an email with the subject "late work: period number"
- b) Title of Assignment being turned in late
- c) Notify where assignment was turned in: "Schoology or turn-in bin"
- d) Explain the reason why the assignment was turned in late.
- e) Share what could you do differently next time
- f) Tell Mr. Helfman how he can be helpful

Students can retake formative assessments depending on an individual's situation. If they advocate for themselves and come to an agreement with Mr. Helfman, one retake will be allowed. Retakes may have the assignment adjusted by Mr. Helfman and will need to be done in person.

If a student was absent or unable to submit the work on the due date, they must meet with Mr. Helfman to discuss the situation and come to a solution.

Units of Study

Quarter 1: "Elements of Fiction"

Texts: "How to Read Comics the Marvel Way"-Christopher Hastings and Scott Koblish, Comic strips, historical & cultural examples, American Born Chinese- Gene Luen Yang, Hearstopper- Alice Oseman, Nimona- ND Stevenson

Writing: Expository

Quarter 2: "Narrative"

Texts: Dancing At The Pity Party-Tyler Feder, They Called Us Enemy-George Takei, Justin Eisinger, Steven R. Scott

Writing: Literary Analysis/Expository Writing

Quarter 3: "Argument"

Texts: Fullmetal Alchemist, Ms. Marvel, Ironheart, Champions, New Mutants, Young Avengers*

Writing: Argumentative writing

Quarter 4: "Lit Analysis"

Texts: Fullmetal Alchemist, Ms. Marvel, Ironheart, Champions, New Mutants, Young Avengers*

Writing: Literary Analysis

There are times where units can shift or be subject to change.

Community Expectations

1. **Rise to Your Highest Self**
2. **Know that you are valued**
3. **Be honest, consistent, and find healthy solutions**

4. Create an environment of success for yourself and others

5. Academic Honesty & Integrity: Please note that plagiarism is unacceptable in this course. If a student is found to have plagiarized any part of their work that assignment will not be graded. Plagiarism includes copying other students' work, AI, etc. All students who copy can receive a "0" depending on the academic dishonesty. I will notify the parent/guardians of the student(s).

6. Students & Teacher commit to the school policy on technology.

- a. **Phones** will be stored in a safe place that is unavailable for use unless discussed otherwise. Check in with Mr. Helfman about charging phones before class.
- b. **Earbuds/Headphones** will be stored in a safe place that is unavailable for use unless discussed otherwise.*
- c. **Computer & Charger** will be brought to class and fully charged each day.

If a student is struggling with meeting these expectations, parents/guardians will be notified.

Syllabus Review

After reviewing and discussing your *L.A. 11: Graphic Novels, Comics, Manga* Syllabus with your parent or guardian, please complete the following information and turn this paper in to Mr. Helfman by September 19th.

Parent/Guardian: *I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the course syllabus and expectations for L.A. 11: Graphic Novels, Comics, Manga.*

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's printed name: _____

Student: *I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the course syllabus and expectations for L.A. 11: Graphic Novels, Comics, Manga.* In addition, I understand that ultimately I am in charge of my own learning and education, and therefore will put great effort toward being the most responsible and successful student I can be.

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Student's printed name: _____