

**Grade 7 English**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

SY 2016-2017

**INSTRUCTOR: Mrs. Candis Nishimitsu**

Classroom: Kaheihimālie J-21	Office hours: Monday-Thursday 2:45-3:30 By appointment only
Office phone: 572-4217	Email: <a href="mailto:canishim@ksbe.edu">canishim@ksbe.edu</a> (til 3:30) <a href="mailto:cnishimitsu@gmail.com">cnishimitsu@gmail.com</a> (after 3:30)
Join our <b>Remind</b> class for reminders and important information.  Need to join? Here is the link below: <a href="https://www.remind.com/join/ckhdh">https://www.remind.com/join/ckhdh</a>	Class schedule: Year-long course, A/B schedule

**A. DESCRIPTION**

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade English course is a required course. Kamehameha Schools has adopted the Common Core State Standards. These standards provide the basis for our curriculum. Each unit provides students with opportunities to enhance their reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. The goal of instruction is to teach and support students as they develop literacy and thinking skills to communicate clearly and effectively for various purposes.

Class time will also include preparation for the NWEA Reading tests. Students will take the NWEA assessments in August, December, and May.

**B. ORGANIZATION**

Students attend English classes on an A/B schedule. Therefore, classes meet every other day for approximately 80 minutes per session. The **general** breakdown of the English block is as follows:

- 1-2 minutes: Individual Preparation-read agenda, turn in assignments, write homework in planner, prepare materials, etc.
- 5-7 minutes: Daily Focus – students quietly work on a short reading, writing or language assignment at assigned seat
- 2-3 minutes: Whole Group- teacher reviews agenda, answers questions, clarifies information, etc.
- 4-5 minutes: Whole Group- review Daily Focus assignment, mini-lesson
- 10-15 minutes: Whole Group Instruction- English content
- 40-45 minutes: Small Group Work OR Individual Work- English content; time for teacher to meet with small groups or individual students; time is often spent in writing workshop, reading workshop, or language study
- 3-4 minutes: Whole Group- Review & Respond: Time for students and teacher to share work or ideas, respond to each other, review homework assignments and deadlines, repeat necessary information, etc.

- 1-2 minutes: Clean-up & dismissal
- \*\*\*Schedule subject to change depending on school activities, units of study, group projects, etc.

### **C. COURSE OBJECTIVES**

The goals for this English 7 course are to:

1. Develop independent learners who use resources ethically and proficiently.
2. Improve literacy skills to understand and communicate information clearly and effectively.
3. Increase reading fluency and reading comprehension skills.
4. Enhance writing skills for personal and academic purposes.
5. Practice speaking in front of an audience.
6. Promote awareness of the value and dangers of technological resources (internet, social media, etc.).
7. Foster social and communication skills when working on teams, with partners, or in small groups.
8. Explore areas of interest through researching, reading, writing, viewing, and discussing.

### **D. COURSE STANDARDS**

STANDARD 1: Vocabulary and Concept Development

STANDARD 2: Informational text: Structure, Comprehension and Analysis

STANDARD 3: Literary Text: Comprehension and Analysis

STANDARD 4: Writing: Informational, Research and Persuasive Texts

STANDARD 5: Writing: Literary Text

STANDARD 6: English Language Conventions

STANDARD 7: Listening and Speaking

### **E. TEXT AND REQUIRED SUPPLIES**

- Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Collections 2017 (online textbook: <https://my.hrw.com>)
- Vocabulary: *Greek and Latin Roots*
- Novels: *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton
- Grammar: *Daily Oral Language*

### **F. GRADING PLAN**

Homework will be assigned regularly and students are expected to complete this work in a timely manner in order to receive teacher feedback to master the skills being taught.

Grades will be calculated based on individual conferences, formative and summative assessments tasks/projects.

In order to resubmit or retake an assessment, students MUST complete all homework. Assignment and assessment scores shall be considered final two weeks after the date posted in KS connect, unless noted otherwise. Retakes and resubmits will be at the teacher's discretion in the final two weeks of each quarter. No opportunities for extra credit will be offered.

The following grading scale will be used in calculating students' overall grade.		Assignments may also be assessed using standards based indicators as follows:	
93% - 100%	A		
90% - 92%	A-	ME	Meets with Excellence
87% - 89%	B+	MP	Meets Proficiency
83% - 86%	B	AP	Approaching Proficiency
80% - 82%	B-	N	Not Meeting
77% - 79%	C+		
73% - 76%	C		
70% - 72%	C-		
67% - 69%	D+		
63% - 66%	D		
60% - 62%	D-		
59% and below	F		

**ATTENDANCE:**

Please see KSM student handbook for absent policy.

**GENERAL:**

Grades will be posted on KS Connect every two weeks at a minimum. Please check grades often and communicate any concerns or discrepancies with the teacher immediately. Students are expected to monitor their own progress on KS Connect and take responsibility for their learning.

**G. CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT**

Please see KSM student handbook for conduct policy.

Order of consequences for disrespectful or inappropriate behavior in Mrs. Nishimitsu's class:

1. First verbal warning from teacher
2. Second verbal warning from teacher
3. Detention: student will work off detention either with teacher or during the lunch period in dining hall
4. Written Infraction with parent signature + 2 days of detention with teacher or at dining hall; no lunch recess for 2 days
5. Written Infraction (see #4 above), phone call or e-mail to parent, parent required to make accommodations to attend class with student until student demonstrates appropriate classroom/learning behavior

## J. SUGGESTIONS FOR SUCCESS

Sign up for Remind to receive text or email information and reminders about homework assignments, announcements, deadlines, links to important information, etc. Write down assignments and deadlines in the daily planner and check KS-Connect on a regular basis to see updated grade information. Do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Nishimitsu with any questions or concerns. The best way to communicate with Mrs. Nishimitsu is through e-mail: [canishim@ksbe.edu](mailto:canishim@ksbe.edu) or [cnishimitsu@gmail.com](mailto:cnishimitsu@gmail.com) (afterschool hours) OR message me through the Remind app.

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

QUARTER	MAJOR UNITS OF STUDY
1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Writing Process</li> <li>• Reading Strategies</li> <li>• Narrative Writing</li> <li>• Grammar/Language Usage</li> <li>• Vocabulary</li> </ul>
2nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Writing Process</li> <li>• Reading Strategies</li> <li>• Informational Text</li> <li>• Research Writing</li> <li>• MLA Format</li> <li>• The Research Process</li> <li>• Informative Essay &amp; Multimedia Presentation</li> <li>• Grammar/Language Usage</li> <li>• Vocabulary</li> </ul>
3rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Writing Process</li> <li>• Reading Strategies</li> <li>• Argument Writing &amp; Presentation</li> <li>• Grammar/Language Usage</li> <li>• Vocabulary</li> </ul>
4th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Writing Process</li> <li>• Reading Strategies</li> <li>• Literary Analysis Essay</li> <li>• Grammar/Language Usage</li> <li>• Vocabulary</li> <li>• Novel <i>The Outsiders</i> by S.E. Hinton</li> </ul>