

# Language Arts 1-2 SYLLABUS

January 4-March 19, 2010

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## INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

**Instructors:** Dan Jenkins and Brian Sien

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sienb@nclack.k12.or.us

**Office Hours:** 7:45-9:15am/2:45-3:45pm (except Monday)

## CLASS INFORMATION:

**Course Description:** This course serves as a basis for beginning writers and readers. The class will master:

- the components of grammar
- the foundational skills of writing narrative, imaginative, expository, and persuasive papers
- the foundational skills of understanding literary and informative texts
- the foundational skills of producing and delivering speeches (informative and persuasive)
- the basic elements of fiction: setting, theme, mood, tone, characters, and plot through short stories, novels, and movies

These principles will then be applied to constructing papers, speeches and projects throughout the trimester. The curriculum of the class will also include integrating core reading and writing strategies into concepts to build academic and organizational skills.

**Credits:** 0.5 Credits per term

**Class Schedule:** Monday-Friday, 9:15-10:10/10:20am  
Monday-Friday, 1:35/1:50-2:45pm

**Location:** CMC main campus; language arts room.

**Pre-requisites:** N/A

**Textbook:** Selected short stories, *The Alchemist*-Paulo Coelho

**Library Resources:** Students enrolled in the class must obtain a CCC library card. Students who don't have a card will go over and get theirs within the first two weeks of class.

Students have access to resources posted on the CMC website under the instructor's page. Included with the resources, students will also find:

- Current weekly grades posted
- Current assignments posted
- Instructions to each assignments
- Other materials to be included as the course progresses

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**Supplies:** Students are to bring a writing utensil every day along with a notebook and journal and any reading material given out in class

**COMMON CURRICULUM GOALS AND STANDARDS:** You have the opportunity to learn the following literature goals and standards in this course:

1. **Examine and analyze how character, plot, setting, and theme contribute to the meaning and impact of a literary work.**

- Interpret and explain a literary work, using examples, details, and quotations from the text.

**READING/WRITING/SPEAKING SKILLS:** In addition to specific literature skills mentioned above, CMC has identified core skills that are transferable and go beyond the context of a specific course. This class addresses the following core skills of reading/writing and speaking skills:

### **Reading**

1. **Determine meanings of words using contextual and structural clues and other reading strategies.**

2. **Locate information and clarify meaning by skimming, scanning, close reading, and other reading strategies.**

3. **Identify sequence of events, main ideas, facts, supporting details, and opinions in literary, informative, and practical selections.**

- Analyze relationships, images, patterns, or symbols to draw conclusions about their meanings in printed material.
- Analyze and evaluate whether an argument, action, or policy is validated by the evidence in a selection.

4. **Extend and deepen comprehension by relating text to other texts, experiences, issues, and events.**

5. **Read and respond to literary works from a variety of literary forms, including novels, short stories, poetry, drama, essays, and nonfiction; recognize distinguishing characteristics of literary genres.**

### **Writing**

1. **Planning, Evaluation, and Revision: Pre-write, draft, revise, edit, and publish across the subject areas.**

- Use a variety of strategies to prepare for writing, such as brainstorming, making lists, mapping, outlining, grouping related ideas, using graphic organizers, and taking notes

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2. **Writing Modes: Write narrative, expository, and persuasive texts, using a variety of written forms—including journals, essays, short stories, poems, research reports, research papers, business and technical writing—to express ideas appropriate to audience and purpose across the subject areas.**
  - Personal Narrative
  - Fictional Narrative
  - Expository
  - Persuasive
3. **Structure writing in a clear sequence by developing a beginning, middle, and end and by making transitions among ideas, paragraphs, and sentences.**
  - Convey clear, focused main ideas supported by accurate and relevant details in ways appropriate to topic, audience, and purpose.
  - Use and vary sentence structures and lengths to enhance flow, rhythm, meaning, and clarity.
  - Write in a variety of modes and forms appropriate to audience and purpose.
4. **Use correct spelling, grammar, punctuation, capitalization, paragraphing, and citations.**

### **Speaking and communication**

1. **Speaking: Communicate supported ideas across the subject areas using oral, visual, and multi-media forms in ways appropriate to topic, context, audience, and purpose ; organize oral, visual, and multi-media presentations in clear sequence, making connections and transitions among ideas and elements ; use language appropriate to topic, context, audience, and purpose ; and demonstrate control of eye contact, speaking rate, volume, enunciation, inflection, gestures, and other non-verbal techniques.**
  - Present and support a clear thesis statement and choose appropriate types of proof (e.g., statistics, testimony, specific instances) that meet standard tests for evidence, including credibility, validity, and relevance.
2. **Convey clear, focused main ideas with accurate, relevant supporting details, including documentation of sources, appropriate to audience and purpose.**
3. **Demonstrate organization by developing a beginning, middle, and end and by providing clear sequencing of ideas and transition.**
  - Use a variety of descriptive and accurate words appropriate to audience and purpose.
  - Demonstrate fluent delivery with varied inflections, effective eye contact, speaking rate, volume, enunciation, and gestures appropriate to audience and purpose.

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### 4. Listening: Listen critically and respond appropriately across the subject areas.

- Formulate judgments about ideas under discussion, and support those judgments with convincing evidence.

### RESPONSIBILITIES AND POLICIES:

**Student Responsibilities:** As a student of CMC, we expect you to adhere to the policies of the school, as outlined by the Student Handbook (located on the website). You are responsible for the assignments in this class and to communicate any questions, comments or concerns you have to me. Acceptable means of communication include an appointment, e-mail, voicemail or through online discussion forums/blogs. Use of correct grammar and punctuation is required in all written communications.

Plagiarism, cheating and collusion are prohibited at CMC. Students who fail to observe these standards are subject to disciplinary action. Please refer to the CMC Student Handbook for further definitions and consequences of these behaviors, available at:

[www.clackamasmiddlecollege.org](http://www.clackamasmiddlecollege.org)

**Attendance:** Attending class daily will impact a student's opportunity to learn in a positive manner and should result in mastery of skills, benchmarks and standards mentioned above.

**Class participation:** Class participation will result in a greater understanding of the subject matter and will help in skill development. This includes classroom or online discussions, group work, project or other participation requirements that impact student's opportunity to learn.

**Use of Electronic Devices:** Cell phones, iPods and other relevant or irrelevant electronic devices are not to interfere with the learning environment unless these electronic devices are being used for a class assignment. The instructors reserve the right to take any devices that pose a problem. If a device is taken, then it will be returned in a timely fashion with a discussion about classroom expectations. If problem persists then disciplinary action may be taken.

**Other Policies:** Refer to the CMC Student Handbook

**Instructor Responsibilities:** As your instructors, we commit to communicating openly and frequently with you about this class. We will maintain a professional, safe learning environment adhering to the policies of CMC. You can expect a reply to communication, be it via e-mail, through online discussions, voicemail or in person, within 24-48 business hours.

**Syllabus Changes:** As your instructors, we retain the right to make changes based on the timeline of the class, feedback from learners and/or logistical issues and will inform you as soon as a change is made.

**Grading Scale:** 90-100- A, 80-89- B, 70-79- C, 60-69- D, 0-59- F