

**DOBBS FERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**SUBJECT:** English Language Learning

**GRADES:** 8

**Course description:**

The Dobbs Ferry English Language Learning Program provides English instruction to students whose home language is not English. The ELL teacher screens newly entering students in grades 6 - 8 whose home language is other than English to determine the need for skills and language development in English. Students are placed in small groups for instruction where an emphasis is placed on improving oral, aural, reading and writing skills in English. Students participate in language arts lessons in addition to receiving individualized instruction and activities from the teacher.

**Anticipated student outcomes:** By June, students in this class should be able to:

1. Improve their reading, writing, listening and speaking scores on the New York State ESL Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) which is administered in May.
2. Successfully read and write about several level-appropriate texts
3. Expand their conversational and academic vocabulary
4. Develop their listening, speaking, reading, writing and cultural understanding of American English
5. Understand and participate in typical American cultural activities

**Materials required or used:**

Loose Leaf Notebook Section, Black or Blue Pens, Highlighter  
Bilingual Dictionary or App, English Language Dictionary or App  
Book for Free Reading  
DFMS Planner (provided by DFMS), Journal (provided by Ms. Halberg)

**Criteria for grading:**

Students are graded on their effort and participation in addition to their completion of class projects and homework. Each student is expected to do homework, participate in class, write daily in a journal and work throughout the class period.

Journals and Class Participation: 20%

Projects and Assignments: 60%

Book Talks and Support work: 20%

**Opportunities for Enrichment:**

T-Period: Tuesday and Thursday at 7:40 in HS Room 109A and by appointment during lunch or after school. Email: [halbergm@dfsd.org](mailto:halbergm@dfsd.org)

Ms. Halberg has invited her students to Google Classroom. Assignments, announcements and resources are available to students through the Google class page.