

Welcome to Mx. Armas' ELA and STEM Class

About Me

My name is Mx. Armas (they/them/theirs), and I teach ELA and STEM.

Where did I get my degree?

- > I attended Illinois State University and received my Bachelor's Degree in English Education with an endorsement in Middle Level Education.
- > I am in the process of getting my Master's Degree in English Education from Illinois State University.

Hobbies and Interests

- > Rugby! I played rugby for 4 years in college, and I also play every now and then.
- > Favorite Book Genre: Horror/Mystery/Romance
- > Favorite Book: *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*

Important to Note

I am here to teach, learn alongside, and aid your student in their educational career. I hold high levels of expectations for all my students when it comes to classwork, homework, and participation. Students should always try their best when in the classroom, and they should always use their class time wisely. Furthermore, I have a zero tolerance policy to bullying and disrespectful conduct. If at any time bullying or disrespectful conduct occurs, the student will be issued either a strike, a detention, or they will be sent down to the office. Please ensure that your student embodies positivity, respect, and an eagerness to learn when at Hamlin. Thank you!

I'm very excited to learn alongside your student this year!

ELA 8

In ELA 8, students are finishing up their Middle School careers by learning about different forms of writing while exploring the lives of others through novels. The following are topics that will be taught throughout the year:

- ★ Investigative Journalism
- ★ Theme
- ★ Position Paper
- ★ Author's Craft
- ★ And more!

The following are novels that students will be able to read throughout the year as a class:

- ★ *That Was Then, This Is Now* by S.E. Hinton
- ★ *Ghost* by Jason Reynolds
- ★ *Refugee* by Alan Gratz
- ★ And more!

If you have any questions at all, please feel free to email me at rarmas@ahsd125.org.



STEM 6

In STEM 6, students will be introduced to the wonders technology has to offer. They will be working closely with Project STEM and Scratch in order to complete lessons, create projects, and showcase their learning. In Project STEM, students will be following Block A:

- ★ Unit 0: Getting Started with Computer Science
- ★ Unit 1: Motion in Scratch (Events)
- ★ Block A Project: Movie Magic!

They will also work closely to learn and use Google Slides.

If you have any questions at all, please feel free to email me at rarmas@ahsd125.org.

STEM 7

In STEM 7, students will continue their learning by jumping into Block B. They will be working closely with Project STEM and Scratch in order to complete lessons, create projects, and showcase their learning. In Project STEM, students will be following Block B:

- ★ Unit 2: Animation (Loops)
- ★ Unit 3: Games (Conditions)
- ★ Block B Project: Where is Carmen Scratch-iego?

If you have any questions at all, please feel free to email me at rarmas@ahsd125.org.

STEM 8

In STEM 8, students will continue their learning by jumping into Block C of Scratch while also getting opportunities to work hands on with Sphero Bolt robots and a 3D printer. In Project STEM, students will be following Block C:

- ★ Unit 4: Interactive Games (Booleans and Operators)
 - ★ Unit 5: Storytelling (Variables)
 - ★ Block C Project: Avatar Builder
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The Hamlin Grading Policy is as follows:

- Grading Consists of 3 Categories:
 - **Formative Assessments:** Worth 50% of the grade. Formative assessments include: classwork, homework, process quizzes, daily labs, and other work that shows the progress or process of the student in regards to certain material.
 - **Summative Assessments:** Worth 40% of the grade. Summative assessments include: tests, unit projects, final labs, and other work that shows the overall understanding at the end of a unit by the student.

- **Effort/Participation:** Worth 10% of the grade. Effort/participation includes: effective utilization of class time, quality of work, preparedness, participations in discussions, engagement in group work, and other examples of dedication in the classroom.
- Any assignment that is turned in late (1 to 5 days), will receive a maximum score of 80%. Scores will then be graded based on the total allowed score of 80%. After the 5th day, students will earn an F for the assignment; however, the assignment will remain missing in the gradebook until the student completes it. Missing assignments may lead to the loss of participation in school activities.
- It is our school's policy to put in a "59M" in the gradebook if a student is missing any assignment. The 59 stands for 59% and the "M" stands for missing. The assignment will remain an "F" until the student turns in the missing work.

A+	98%-100%	Grade Point	5.333
A	93%-97%	Grade Point	5.0
A-	90%-92%	Grade Point	4.667
B+	87%-89%	Grade Point	4.333
B	83%-86%	Grade Point	4.0
B-	80%-82%	Grade Point	3.667
C+	77%-79%	Grade Point	3.333
C	73%-76%	Grade Point	3.0
C-	70%-72%	Grade Point	2.667
D+	67%-69%	Grade Point	2.333
D	63%-66%	Grade Point	2.0
D-	60%-62%	Grade Point	1.667
F	59% or lower	Grade Point	1.0