

# Historical Fiction: Allies

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<b>Grades:</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Day of Week:</b>	<b>Monday</b>
<b>Time of Class:</b>	<b>9:00 am – 10:30 am ET</b>
<b>Length of Class:</b>	<b>10 weeks</b>
<b>Semester:</b>	<b>Winter 2022</b>
<b>Tuition:</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>
<b>High School Credit (9<sup>th</sup>):</b>	<b>.5 English – Elective</b>

## **Class Dates:**

Week 1 – Week of January 9

Week 2 – Week of January 16

Week 3 – Week of January 23

Week 4 – Week of January 30

Week 5 – Week of February 6

Week 6 – Week of February 13

***Mid Semester Break: Week of February 20 – President's Day***

Week 7 – Week of February 27

Week 8 – Week of March 6

Week 9 – Week of March 13

Week 10 – Week of March 20

Make Up Week – Week of March 27

<b>Instructor's Name:</b>	<b>Eva Goldstein - Meola</b>
<b>Instructor's Email:</b>	<b>eva@writingteacher.com</b>
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## Description of Class:

June 6, 1944. D-Day.

Nearly 160,000 troops crossed the English Channel to invade German-occupied France, most of them from the United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada. Thousands more in France fought the Nazis at home. It was a day of unprecedented unity and cooperation.

But many people played heroic roles on D-Day only to return to lives after the war filled with prejudice, segregation, and injustice.

Algerian Muslim soldiers fought in the French Resistance and the Free French Army, only to have to wage a bloody war for independence after the war.

Jewish soldiers fighting for the liberation of concentration camps dealt with anti-Semitism among the very men who fought alongside them.

African American soldiers fought on the beaches at D-Day but remained segregated from white soldiers throughout the war and returned home to find German prisoners of war treated better than they were in their hometowns.

Their stories and others are told in *Allies*, a novel that, like D-Day itself, proves we are stronger together.

Together, students will collaborate across both language arts and history to look at the global scope, outcome, and human costs of war.

## Class Approach:

In literature circles, small groups of students gather to discuss a piece of literature in depth. The discussion is guided by students' responses to what they have read. You may hear talk about events and characters in the book, the author's craft, or personal experiences related to the story. Literature circles provide a way for students to engage in critical thinking and reflection as they read, discuss, and respond to books. Collaboration is at the heart of this approach. Students reshape and add onto their understanding as they construct meaning with other readers. Finally, literature circles guide students to deeper understanding of what they read through structured discussion and extended written and artistic response.

This specific course is geared toward higher level thinking. Each literature circle role is directly connected to the 11 elements of critical thinking: big ideas, rules, trends, patterns, language of the discipline, ethics, relationships over time, details, unanswered questions, across disciplines and multiple perspectives.

The class will be a combination of reading comprehension, discussion, lecture, and projects.

**BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF THE TOPIC, STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO READ AHEAD OF THE CLASS.**

**Textbook:**

Allies by Alan Gratz

[https://www.amazon.com/Allies-Alan-Gratz/dp/1407198793/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=43GPQY0U9GWA&keywords=Allies+by+Alan+Gratz&qid=1641063792&s=books&sprefix=allies+by+alan+gratz%2Cstripbooks%2C231&sr=1-1](https://www.amazon.com/Allies-Alan-Gratz/dp/1407198793/ref=sr_1_1?crid=43GPQY0U9GWA&keywords=Allies+by+Alan+Gratz&qid=1641063792&s=books&sprefix=allies+by+alan+gratz%2Cstripbooks%2C231&sr=1-1)

**\*\* PLEASE DO NOT HAVE STUDENTS PRE-READ BOOK. \*\***

**Additional Supplies/Resources Needed:**

Microphone / Headset for Class Discussions

Either a two-pocket folder with paper, spiral notebook or three ring notebook. Student's choice.

Pencil / Pen

Colored Pencils / Markers / Crayons

Basic Art Supplies

Access to PowerPoint (if student chooses this option)

**Requirements:**

A sensitivity to other students and any emotions that may come out during the reading of the book as well as discussions.

Students are EXPECTED to participate in class discussions.

**Weekly Homework:**

Total homework time: approximately 1.5 - 2 hours weekly

Reading – Approximately 30 minutes weekly depending on the student's speed.

**\*\* PLEASE DO NOT HAVE STUDENTS PRE-READ BOOK. \*\***

Written Work: Approximately 60 minutes weekly

**Homework Policy:**

It is expected that students will keep up with the reading to be able to fully participate in class.

**Grading Scale:**

Exceeds Expectations

Meets Expectations

Not Yet

If parents would like a traditional letter grade, please notify the teacher by week two of the class.