



RIMROCK JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS

BASIC INFORMATION

Course title: 7th Grade English Language Arts

Year: Spring Semester 2016

Teacher's name: Rachel Burk

Class location: Room 205

Phone Number: 208.834.2260

Email Address: rburk@sd365.us

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Through the study of various forms of literature, students will be able to gain knowledge from complex literary and informational texts, create written responses to prompts (while citing text evidence), construct oral responses to prompts, analyze texts, and gain understanding of certain academic language and vocabulary.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & EXPECTATIONS

Students will be given a rubric for each assignment, making it clear what the expectations are for each task. It is my goal to bring a challenging, yet intriguing approach to the ELA classroom. This class will include many group discussions and active participation opportunities. There will be investigative approaches to literature as students learn to look deeper and analyze what they are reading. The course will include reading from the text, watching videos reflecting certain ideas, oral presentations, written assignments and group assignments. There will be a daily grade given based on the rubric that I have attached to this syllabus. This rubric style is what I will use throughout the course for other assignments.

REQUIRED STUDENT RESOURCES

Common Core Literature, Grade 8, Pearson Education, Inc. New Jersey, 2015.

Unless a certain homework assignment requires it, the textbooks will stay in the classroom and will not be taken home by the student.

Materials Needed: pencil/pen, spiral notebook

COURSE OUTLINE

Quarter 3	Topic	Reading /Assignment
1	How much information is enough? Quality vs. Quantity	Group work, debate, discussion (190-201)
2	Facts and Visions: Comparing Narrative, Biographical and Argumentative Essays	Students will analyze types of nonfiction, informative text, argument, reflection, explanatory text, verb moods (203-287)
3	Belonging to a Place: autobiography, short story, speech	Students will analyze paragraph structure, compare and contrast tone, evaluate an argument, analyze/discuss word choice, evaluate evidence (289-341)
4	Independent Reading	Literature reading and study (book to be determined)
Quarter 4		
1	What is the secret to reaching someone with words? Poetry	Group work, debate, discussion, elements of poetry, poetry writing (345-365)
2	Text Analysis: Voices in Verse	Types of sentences, imperative and indicative mood, direct and indirect objects,

		poetry analysis, comparing texts (366-438)
3	Generations: Researching, literary analysis	Prewriting, planning, drafting, revising editing and proofreading, research paper(440-501)
4	Independent Reading	Literature reading and study (book to be determined)

EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND GRADING CRITERIA

Daily Grade Rubric

(You want to receive a FOUR)

Daily Grade Rubric	0	1	2	3	4
<i>Description of participation and work ethic</i>	Did not participate, was very disrespectful, many verbal warnings, did not get along with classmates	Very little participation, received many verbal warnings, was not a great team player	Little participation, received several verbal warnings, did not contribute much to group work	Decent participation, received only a few verbal warnings, worked pretty well in a group	Participated very well, did not receive more than a couple verbal warnings, worked great in a group

Other assignments will be graded with a rubric similar to this one but will have more criteria.

A portfolio containing written work from the student will be kept and available to look through at any time throughout the year. This will allow the students to see their progress as they become better writers.

Criteria for grading follows the adopted grading scale in accordance with Policy 604.6

Ex.	Class Participation	20% of final grade
	Daily Assignments	20% of final grade
	Homework	20% of final grade
	Quizzes/Tests	20% of final grade
	Final Exam	<u>20% of final grade</u>
		100%

Ex.	A =	> 90%
	B=	80 to <90%
	C =	70 to < 80%
	D =	60 to < 70%
	F =	<60%

Grade Checks

Parents and students may check grades through the Powerschool portal. A personal ID and password may be obtained at the school office. Grades will be updated every Tuesday.

Athletes are responsible to have a weekly grade check sheet completed every Tuesday during the season and turn in to the coach.

Attendance Policy

All students (grades 6-12) in school District #365 shall be in attendance for at least 90 percent of the instructional time that a subject is being taught as established by the Board of Trustees. (1) Responsibility for student compliance with the above regulation rests with the parent or guardian. (2) Students who fail to fulfill attendance requirements in a class have not earned a credit. A student will not meet their 90% when they achieve their 7th absence in a class.

Tardies

A tardy occurs when any student is late to any class. Once a student surpasses three tardies in a semester they will be assigned a detention and one absence. Every tardy in that class thereafter will result in a detention.

Making-Up Missed Work

When a student is absent from school, the student is expected to make up the work missed. A time limit of two class sessions for each day absent is allowed to hand in make-up work unless otherwise arranged with the teacher.

A/B Not Yet

Students who complete their assignments on time will have the opportunity to re-do assignments for a higher grade.

Raider Time

Students may attend Raider Time on Thursdays after school for additional assistance and to make-up class assignments, quizzes and /or tests. Teachers may also assign students to attend Raider Time.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Cheating is not an acceptable behavior at Rimrock JR/SR High School. All students involved will be given a zero for the assignment or test and the parents will be notified by the teacher in writing and/or by phone and may face additional disciplinary action. Habitual cheating may result in suspension and/or loss of credit.

Electronic Devices

Electronic devices should not be brought to school. Electronic devices belonging to students that are educationally distractive such as cell phones, music players, headphones, etc., will not be allowed in the classroom at any time except in special circumstances approved by the classroom teacher. Students caught with these items during class time will have the item confiscated. The item can be returned one week from the day of infraction or a \$10 fee can be paid to have the item returned at the end of the school day. The fine will be doubled increasingly after each infraction. **The school has no responsibility if your personal electronic device is stolen, lost or damaged.**

PLEASE RETURN THIS PAGE TO THE CLASSROOM TEACHER. KEEP THE PREVIOUS PAGES FOR YOUR RECORDS.

I have read and understand the Course Syllabus for (Name of Course or Teacher).

Parent/Guardian Signature:_____ **Date:**_____

Parent/Guardian's Email Address: _____ **Phone:** _____

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____