

...Home of the Dragons...



English Language Arts

6th Grade

Shandrea Tanksley

Course Syllabus 2023-2024

Course Description and Objectives

This course focuses on oral and written language, as well as media and technology for expressive, informational, argumentative, critical, and literary purposes. The course enables students to become skilled readers of more sophisticated literature by learning how to study and analyze literature through voice and style. The student will read a target number of books or word count equivalent from a variety of genres, subjects and disciplines. The student will compose writing in a variety of genres: narrative, expository, technical, response to literature, and persuasive. The student will analyze and edit his or her writing by focusing on conventions, voice, and style. There is an increase in writing, editing, and proofing. Mastering conventions is a major component of this course. Research becomes a critical component of this course. The student will also engage in viewing, listening, and speaking activities.

Textbook

HMH Into Literature National G6. This book is located in student's Launchpad app under ED.

Novels

New Kid by Jerry Craft

Unit/Concept Names

Unit 1: Development of Characters/Ideas

Unit 2: Central Ideas

Unit 3: Text Structure

Unit 4: Point of View

Unit 5: Summarizing Text

Unit 6: Text Analysis

Richmond County Board of Education Grading Policy

- Minor Grades 60% (graded classwork, journal checks, quizzes, reading check-ins)
 - o **Minimum number** of minor grades per 6-week progress report period = **5**
- Major Grades 40% (summative tests, projects, writing assignments (rough and final drafts))
 - o **Minimum number** of major grades per 6-week progress report period = **2**

Academic Grading Scale

A (90-100) B (80-89) C (75-79) D (70-74) F (below 70)

- Parents are encouraged to monitor their child's grades using the district Infinite Campus Parent Portal.
- Please contact the front office at 706-737-7288 for information to gain access to Infinite Campus.

Academic Dishonesty

The Student Code of Conduct, Rule 1(A)(t), states that no student shall cheat, alter records, plagiarize, receive unauthorized assistance or assist another in any type of academic dishonesty. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty will be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher and a supervising administrator, taking into consideration any written materials, observation, or information from witnesses. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, the task may be entered as "incomplete" and the student required to redo the assignment or retake the assessment.

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Late Work

Late work is defined as assignments that are submitted after the specified deadline. This does not apply to work submitted late due to absence from school. Students are expected to submit assignments on time. Multiple incidents of late work may result in teacher-student-parent conferences to examine and correct the student's work habits. Graded assignments that are submitted late should be scored to accurately reflect the level of mastery of standards.

Make-up Work

Students are expected to make-up assignments and assessments that were missed due to absence from school. Students are responsible for asking teachers for the make-up work upon returning to class. Make-up work should be completed by the student within the time specified by the teacher. Teachers should provide reasonable timelines for completing make-up work. Generally, such work should be completed within 5 days of returning to school. A student should not be required to take a quiz or test on their first day back at school if the assessment was first announced during their absence. Graded assignments should be scored to accurately reflect the level of mastery of standards.

Homework

There will not be a homework category in the gradebook, practice will be assigned as needed.

Relearn & Reassess (R&R Procedures)

Students have the opportunity to submit a relearning plan for any **major assessment**. Upon satisfactory completion of the plan, a student will be given a minimum of two opportunities to be reassessed. Students scoring below 70 on a major assessment are expected to complete a relearning plan unless exempted with parent approval.

Teachers have discretion to determine if R&R opportunities will be given for any **minor assessment**.

Cell phones are not permitted in class, per school policy, and should not be seen nor heard. Students should turn cell phones off and place them in their bookbags.

- First offense will receive an explicit verbal warning.
- Further offense will receive a parent phone call.
- Repeated offenses will result in phone confiscation. In this case, a parent will need to request the phone be returned in person.

Classroom Procedures & Expectations

The overarching expectation in this class is RESPECT: respect for yourself, respect for other students, respect for the teacher/or any individual in authority, and respect for any guests that may enter our class. Although this encompasses all other expectations, I will outline several others for the sake of clarity.

1. Always Try YOUR BEST!!! Students are encouraged to ask questions. I will not settle for anything but your best!! Have the "I can do it" attitude! Stick To It and Don't Give Up!
2. Remain SEATED and PREPARED at all times.
3. Bring ALL materials to class DAILY.
4. All written assignments must be completed in pencil or erasable pen.
5. Students are expected to use their agendas daily to record assignments and assessments.
6. Every student is responsible for helping to maintain a clean, safe learning environment. Your area must remain CLEAN at all times. The floor should be clear of trash, paper, and personal belongings.
7. Adhere to all policies, rules, and regulations outlined in the student handbook, and Tutt Middle School's Norms. Appropriate behavior is expected at all times.

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Course Materials

Pencils/erasers

Notebook paper or journal (students may use a composition notebook or spiral bound)

Folder for work

Students may use a 3 ring binder to organize their papers, but it is not required

Agenda

Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further guidance on Richmond County School System's policies and procedures.

My contact information: Email: TanksSh@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us

Dojo messages: Dojo Information will be available on my Teacher Website

Tutt Middle School Phone Number: 706-737-7288

Please sign and return this portion of the syllabus to affirm that you have reviewed this document:

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Phone Number: _____ Email: _____