**Language and Literature**

**MYP Year 2- 7th Grade**

**Dr. Floydena Smith**

**Course Syllabus 2025-2026**

**Course Description**

This course re-introduces students to engaging content through diverse literary text- informational, narrative, expository, persuasive. Grammar, vocabulary, syntax, writing process skills, and sentence structure are improved through structured lessons, practice exercises, and assignments. Students will also engage in daily responsive exercises.

**Course Objectives**

1. Read challenging text at grade level.
2. Comprehend and evaluate literary structures and elements within various genres of writing.
3. Develop academic and specific domain language.
4. Analyze and use textual evidence to make inferences, analyze, and evaluate texts.
5. Ahere to the writing process when writing essays.
6. Incorporate research methods to gather meaningful information from various databases.
7. Use Standard English in all forms of writing.

**Textbook**

Beers, Kylene, et al. *into Literature.* Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing, 2020.

**Novels**

Spinelli, Jerry. *The Warden’s Daughter.* Random House, 2017.

**Unit/Concept Names**

1. Unit 0: August 5th-6th
2. Unit 1: August 7th- September 15th: Analyze Form and Poetry
3. Unit 2: September 18th- October 29th: Argument Texts
4. Unit 3: Nov. 3rd-Dec. 17th: Informational Texts
5. Unit 4: January 8th- Feb. 19th: Narrative Texts
6. Unit 5: Feb. 24th-April 1st: Engaging in the Writing Process
7. Unit 6: April 6th- May 20th Writing Process

**Richmond County Board of Education Grading Policy**

**Minor Grades 60%**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Reading Comprehension  Activities | Quizzes |
| Socratic Seminar | Vocabulary Activities /Quizzes |
| Rough Drafts | Shadow Assignments |
| Outlines | Prior Activation Activities |

**Minimum number** of minor grades per 6-week progress report period = **5**

**Major Grades 40%**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Test | Research Paper |
| Grammar Projects | News Reports |

**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)

* A parent(s) can monitor his or her child’s grades using the district Infinite Campus Parent Portal.
* Parents should contact the front office at 706-737-7288 for information to gain access to Infinite Campus.

1. Assist their child with assignments and projects and make sure they submit by the deadline

**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.

**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 through an academic contract. Students in grades 6-12 may have their scores reduced by 5% per day for a 25% maximum reduction (five school days). Late work submitted after the fifth school day will only be accepted at the teacher’s discretion. Completing work in a timely manner during the learning unit is essential for academic success. If the score is reduced for late work, the teacher must make a notation in the Infinite Campus comment section of the gradebook to reflect the reduction for late work. Students and parents should refer to the teacher’s course syllabus for specific late work procedures.

**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.

**Homework**

Students will have homework every week. All assignments will be practice assignments. They will not be graded. However, students can earn points for assignments. These points permit them to get special passes or gifts. Homework assignments will be used to activate prior knowledge at the beginning of the class.

**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 one opportunity 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**

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**

**Entering Class:**

Enter the classroom quietly.

Place your homework assignment in your class’s basket.

Get your folder out of the bookshelf.

Sharpen your pencil.

Take out your notebook and binder.

Sit in your assigned seat.

Begin working on your activation assignment or bellringer.

**During Class:**

Raise your hand to speak.

Speak respectfully.

Wait your turn to speak.

Empower others.

Do not touch others.

Do not tease/ bully others.

Do not gossip about others.

Only discuss academic topics.

Help other succeed.

**Exiting Class**

5 minutes before class place all of your items in your bookbag. Make sure you have all of your belongings.

Line up when your row is called.

When you are in the hall, please remain quiet, so you won’t disturb classes.

**Expectations**

Respect yourself.

Respect teachers and others.

No cursing.

Try your very best.

Do not make excuses.

Ask for help.

Look to the future.

**Course Materials**

Students are responsible for having all of the following supplies daily:

* Notebook paper
* Pencils
* Pencil sharpener
* Three ring binder with dividers
* Four highlighters
* Scissors
* 2 Glue sticks
* One pack of color pencils
* If your child has a take home computer, he or she must have it charged before he or she leaves homes.

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

**My contact information**

**Email:** SmithFl@BOE.richmond.k12.ga.us

**Tutt Middle School Phone Number:** 706-737-7288

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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: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_