...Home of the Dragons...



Course Description and Objectives

This is the continuing course, in a sequence of courses, designed to provide students with a rigorous program of study in Middle School Language Arts. This course will target students' growth in the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, discussion, reflection, and viewing. Reading strategies, critical thinking skills, and vocabulary building comprise the main elements of reading instructions. Through fiction, nonfiction, and poetry reading, students will practice reading strategies and comprehension skills. The focus of writing will be on narrative, informational, and argumentative writing. The overall goal of the class is to increase the literacy and writing ability of students.

Textbook

HMH Georgia Collections (black book)

Unit/Concept Names

Unit 1 How Do We Form Friendships? Unit 2 What Makes Someone Effective or Successful? Unit 3 Argument With Logic, Kindness and Respect Unit 4 How Can We Overcome Adversity?

Major Course Projects and Instructional Activities

At least one project will be assigned each grading period. This will be an extension or enrichment of the concepts discussed. Students will have 1 to 3 weeks to complete each project depending on the complexity of the task. Some tasks and/or projects will be completed in class.

Reading Instruction will focus on:

- Short stories, nonfiction, drama, poetry, novels, narrative, and released reading assessment materials. Focus will be on pulling evidence from several sources for answers to questions.
- Reading comprehension and critical thinking strategies, elements of literature, poetic elements, text features, summarizing, analysis, and all Common Core State Standards.

Writing Instruction will focus on:

- Narrative, Informational (Explanatory), and Argumentative Writing
- All Common Core State Standards
- Three or more complete essays and/or letters
- Literary writing—providing text-based responses to literature and poetry
- Responses to nonfiction articles and essays

Course Assessment Plan

Students will receive a variety of assignments, quizzes and test designed to enhance their learning. If a student is absent, the student is responsible for the missed assignment. Students who have an excused absence will be allowed five days to turn in the missed assignment. No work will be accepted after five days.

Evaluation (Schoolwide Grading Policy)

- Summative Assessments 30% (Unit & Chapter Test, Projects)
- Formative Assessments 60% (Quizzes, Class work, Graded Writing Assignments, Group Work, etc.)
- Homework/Other 10% (Do now and Journal entries)

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!!! I will not settle for anything but your best!!
- 2. Have the "I can do it" attitude! Stick To It and Don't Give Up!

- 3. Be Encouraging! Just because you get it, everyone else may not.
- 4. Be Prepared for class DAILY!
- 5. Be ATTENTIVE! Although we are virtual, it is important you pay attention!
- 6. Adhere to all policies, rules, and regulations outlined in the student handbook, and Tutt Middle School's Norms.

Course Materials

- Pencils
- ¹/₂ or 1 inch binder
- Wide Rule, Loose leaf paper
- Composition Notebook

Donations appreciated for the following (optional):

- *Copy Paper * Hand Sanitizer
- *Dry Erase Markers
- *Kleenex
- * Disinfectant Wipes

My contact information:

Email: willimy@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us Remind class code: Text "@ela6willi" to 81010

Resources:

iReady.com www.myhrw.com