

DOBBS FERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522

COURSE OUTLINE

SUBJECT: Language & Literature

GRADE: 7

Course Description:

Seventh grade Language and Literature is designed to meet the developmental and educational needs of every seventh grade student through the study of reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language and vocabulary acquisition. Students are expected to increase their ability to analyze and synthesize information, improve their reading abilities and become a more proficient writer. Additionally, seventh grade English Language and Literature will foster students' competency to read critically, write effectively and communicate efficiently, providing a foundation for their upcoming years in high school and beyond.

Anticipated Student Outcomes:

By June of this year, students are expected to demonstrate the following:

- Demonstrate independence in the following areas:
 - *Comprehend and evaluate complex texts.*
 - *Construct effective arguments and communicate high-level and/or multi-layered information.*
 - *Determine a speaker's key arguments, request clarification, and ask relevant questions.*
 - *Become self-directed learners by effectively seeking out and using resources to assist them (including teachers, peers, and print & digital reference materials).*
- Employ critical thinking skills when reading fiction and non-fiction.
- Build strong content knowledge through content-rich nonfiction.
- Value evidence when reading literary and informational text.
- Comprehend, as well as critique, complex texts and their academic language.
- Read carefully and grasp information, arguments, ideas, and details based on evidence in the text.
- Answer a range of text-dependent questions, through inferring implicit information.
- Come to understand other perspectives and cultures.
- Make connections among ideas and between texts, while identifying inconsistencies, ambiguities, and poor reasoning within texts.
- Write to inform/explain, argue, or to tell a story in narrative form.
- Demonstrate ability to use the writing process while paying close attention to the audience, task, purpose, and discipline.
- Produce writing that is evidence-based
- Foster communication skills (Socratic seminar, oral presentations).
- Develop a range of broadly useful oral communication and interpersonal skills by
 - *Learning to work together*
 - *Expressing and listening carefully to ideas*
 - *Evaluating what is viewed through the use of media and visual displays*

- Understand general academic and domain-specific vocabulary words, as well as their relationships, and connotations.
- Apply seventh grade common core grammar standards to their writing.
- Use technology and digital media strategically and capably.

Opportunities for Support and Enrichment:

- Almost all ELA units are set up according to a system of grouping that focuses on content and process. Therefore, all students, no matter the level, will feel challenged in the classroom. However, for students who need additional support, through re-teaching or small group instruction, or students who wish to challenge themselves further and enrich their learning, T-Period is available.

Wordly Wise 3000 (Online Vocabulary book)

- Each lesson can be read or listened to online.
- Pronunciation and examples of words used in context are provided for additional support.

Quizlet (Online Study App)

- An online study tool that helps students with things like memorization, recall of key concepts, and basic practice in vocabulary.
- Students can study on their phones and tablets with the mobile apps for iPhone, iPad and Android devices.

Outline developed by: Language and Literature Department

Spring 2016