

DOBBS FERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522

COURSE OUTLINE

SUBJECT: Language & Literature

GRADE: 7

Course Description:

Some of the Statements of Inquiry to be studied are:

1. When looking at connections between different texts, students will begin to recognize how identity is shaped by human relationships and internal and external influences.
2. The study of how past injustices have led to change can now lead individuals and groups to change what they perceive to be unfair in today's society by taking a critical stance on the topic.

Seventh grade English Language Arts is designed to meet the developmental and educational needs of every seventh grade student through the study of reading, writing, speaking & listening, and language & 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 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.
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Outline developed by: Language and Literature Department

Spring 2018