

DUTCHTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION

Dutchtown Middle School seeks to foster a safe and positive school community where all stakeholders are both actively and consistently engaged. We will commit ourselves daily towards sustaining high expectations for teaching and learning, nurturing positive relationships, and celebrating the collective success of our school and community.

DUTCHTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL VISION

In truth, honor, and integrity, Dutchtown Middle School will create an environment of excellence in all that we do.

2020-2021 Language Arts Grade 8

Dutchtown Middle School

Contact Me:

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School Phone: 770-515-7500

Course Description:

This year we will utilize various genres of text in order to expose our students to ensure that our students have meaningful learning experiences. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to communicate effectively at or above grade level through reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Course Objectives

At the end of the seventh grade year students are expected to have mastered the following skills and content:

- Read and annotate both fiction and nonfiction text;
- Cite evidence that strongly supports the topic or prompt;
- Write a constructed response on an assigned topic using and citing evidence from an assigned text;
- Write an extended response on an assigned topic citing evidence from text provided;
- Compare and contrast text both fiction and nonfiction that are centered on a common theme or topic;
- Write using the standard English conventions of grammar, spelling and syntax;
- Conduct research on an assigned topic and provide valid sources to support ideas.

It is our desire that all students enter the classroom attentive and eager to learn. However, this goal can only be accomplished if the classroom is orderly and structured. Students are expected to be active participants in creating a wonderful classroom environment where all students are able to learn.

Required Course Materials (includes all content areas)

Virtual Learning Supplies

- Charged Chromebook
- Pocket Folder for each subject
- Loose leaf paper (College Ruled)
- (2) Composition Notebooks
- Pencils
- Pens (blue or black ink only)
- Colored Pencils and/or markers
- Pencil Sharpener
- Glue Stick
- Highlighters

- Graph Paper
- Scientific Calculator TI-30 (optional)
- Scissors
- Earbuds

Face-to-Face Learning Supplies

- (1) Three ring binder
- (1) Set of Dividers
- Pencil pouch

Supplementary Materials

- HMH Textbook (Electronic and Print)
- Illuminate
- Google Classroom
- Other electronic and print materials as needed

Classroom Expectations

Virtual Classroom Rules/Expectations

1. Arrive to class on time, dressed appropriately with cameras on and microphones muted.
2. Come prepared to learn with a positive attitude and remain for the duration of class time.
3. Be an active and engaged member of the class and submit your assignments on time
4. Raise your hand or type your question in the chat box.
5. Respect your teacher, yourself, and others

Face to Face Rules/Expectations

1. Come to class prepared with required course materials
2. Raise your hand for questions or assistance.
3. Be actively engaged in the instructional session.
4. Respect your classmates at all times.
5. Obey DMS and Henry County School rules and procedures as outlined in the HCS Student Handbook.
6. Be respectful at all times to the teacher and the other students.
7. Be on time for class.
8. Stay seated, unless told otherwise.
9. No gum, candy, or drinks.
10. No loud or disruptive behavior.

Office Hours

Each teacher has office hours on **Fridays** during remote learning. Students will be able to reserve time with their teachers for tutoring.

1st Period	9:50-10:30
2nd Period	10:40-11:20
3rd Period	11:30-12:10
4th Period	12:50-1:30
5th Period	1:40-2:20
6th Period	2:30-3:10
7th Period	3:20-4:00

Upon the return to the building, tutoring will be available. Each teacher will communicate their available times.

Communication

1. Please look for teacher texts about projects, upcoming quizzes & tests, grade uploads, etc. via **Remind**. Sign up information is located on each teacher's website, the class syllabus, and in Google Classroom.
2. **Infinite Campus** is an online tool that allows students and parents to see grades online. Grades will be updated weekly.
3. ELA teachers can be contacted via the **emails** listed above to obtain information, ask questions, or set up a conference with your child's academic teachers.

Grading Policies

Practice Work	Assessment Tasks	Semester Summative Assessment Tasks
Classwork, homework, formative assessments, diagnostic assessments, written reflections. May be graded for accuracy or completion.	Constructed response assessments, selected responses, reflective assessments, summative assessments, unit assessments, culminating performance tasks, projects	Assesses the totality of standards for the course. In the case of a high school course with an EOC test, the semester summative assessment will be the EOC at the completion of the full course.
Counts 40% of grade	Counts 40% of grade	Counts 20% of grade

Tests:

- Each unit, students will have a pretest. It is imperative that the students try their best on the pretest because it drives their personalized instruction for the remainder of the semester.
- DMS will have biweekly assessments. These formative assessments will cover standards that have been addressed in class during those two weeks.
- We will also have unit exams that will cover standards covered in a single unit. The biweekly assessments will help the teacher in driving instruction for students to score well on the culminating exams.

Projects:

- Projects may include writing assignments, research, oral presentations, and discovery projects. Project frequency will vary during each grading period depending on the material being covered.

Grading Scales

Students will receive at least one grade per week in each content area that will be available for viewing in Infinite Campus.

Students will be evaluated using the following scale:

- 90-100 =A
- 80-89 =B
- 74-79 =C
- 70-73= D
- Below 70= F

Non-Academic Grades

Students will be evaluated on non-academic factors as follows through the conduct grade:

S- Satisfactory

N- Needs Improvement

U- Unsatisfactory

NOTE: All items on this syllabus are subject to change due to students' needs and teacher discretion.
Please sign and return this page to the student's ELA Teacher.

We have read the attached syllabus and are clear about the expectations, rules, and procedures for ELA classroom.

Student's Name: _____ Academic Period: 4 5 6 7

Parent's/Guardian's Name (please print) _____

Parent's/Guardian's Signature _____