



SANDTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

2019-20 Course Syllabus

Course Title: 8th Grade ELA

Teacher's Name:

Joseph Seals, Chelsea Foster, Marsha Simon, Tanya Hobbs, Shadonna Robinson

Contact Information : (470) 254-6500

Teacher Contact Information

Mr. J. Seals

sealsj1@fultonschools.org

Mrs. T. Hobbs

hobbst11@fultonschools.org

Mrs. C. Foster

fosterc61@fultonschools.org

Dr. M. Simon

simonmd@fultonschools.org

Ms. S. Robinson

robinsons1@fultonschools.org

Room Numbers:

Seals (E110), Simon (E111), Foster (E112), Robinson (E114), Hobbs (E108)

Tutorials

Thursday 7:25-8:20 or 4:25-5:20



SANDTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

2019-20 Course Syllabus

Course Description

In Eighth Grade English Language Arts, students continue to develop an appreciation of written and spoken language. They expand their use of descriptive words and complex sentences, as well as, their choices of modes of writing. Throughout 8th grade, students continue to develop the ability to critique constructively their own work as well as the work of others. Students use oral language, written language, and media and technology for expressive, informational, argumentative, critical, and literary purposes. Students use the stages of the writing process to write clear, coherent compositions that develop an idea or tell a story.

Reading and Literature

- The student will read and analyze a variety of literary texts such as poetry, drama, short stories, and novels to acquire an understanding of the conventions of each form.
- The student will read and analyze a variety of informational texts to develop an understanding of organizational structures, such as cause and effect or comparison-contrast, and graphic features, such as diagrams and illustrations that are typically found in nonfiction.
- The student will acquire new vocabulary and use it effectively in reading and writing.
- The student will recognize and trace the development of the author's argument for and against an issue.

Writing

- The student will produce a variety of writings such as persuasion, narrative, expository, and response to literature.
- The student will use technology to research topics and to produce various products such as essays and presentations.

Conventions

- The student will learn and apply the rules of Standard English in written and oral language.

Listening, Speaking, and Viewing

- The student will participate in effective oral interaction with the teacher and with other students.

Grading Policy:



SANDTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

2019-20 Course Syllabus

Summative: 45% (Tests & Culminating Projects)

Formative: 40% (Quizzes & Classwork)

Homework: 15%

Progress Reporting: 0% (Warm-Ups, Exit Tickets, Pre-Tests)

Fulton County Schools assigns numerical grades based on the following scale:

A=100-90

B=80-89

C=70-79

F=69-0

Progress Report Distribution

First Semester

9/17/19

10/17/19

11/20/19

1/13/20 (Report Card)

Second Semester

2/12/20

3/17/20

4/28/20

5/29/20 (Report Card)

Note to Parents/Guardians:

Infinite Campus is our new student information system. The parent homepage can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.fultonschools.org/infinitecampus>.

***Please note that the dates for progress and report card distribution are tentative. If you do not receive your student's progress report or report card three days following each of the above distribution dates, please contact teacher as well as your student's guidance counselor.**

Attendance/Make-Up Work:

Students have 10 instructional days to recover failing/not submitted assignments. Recovered grade cannot exceed 70%.

Provision for Improving Grades/Recovery



SANDTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

2019-20 Course Syllabus

Opportunities designed to allow students to recover from a low or failing cumulative grade will be allowed when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance. Students should contact the teacher concerning recovery opportunities. Teachers are expected to establish a reasonable time period for recovery work to be completed during the semester. All recovery work must be directly related to course objectives and must be completed ten school days prior to the end of the semester.

Note: Teachers may determine when and how students with extenuating circumstances may improve their grades. (excerpted from Fulton County Schools Board Policy)

Materials Required

- Composition Notebook
- Kleenex (2 boxes)
- Post-It Notes
- Colorful Pens
- Highlighters
- Pens/Pencils
- Colored Pencils/Markers

Class Expectations

Students will strive to exhibit JAG S.W.A.G.:

- S—Show respect
- W—Work responsibly
- A—Act with appropriate attitude
- G—Generate excellence

Standard Class Rules:

- Be in your seat with necessary materials when the bell rings.
- Raise your hand to speak or stand.
- Follow directions the first time they are given.
- Keep cell phones out of sight.
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- No put-downs, teasing, or other inappropriate words.

Plagiarism Policy



SANDTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

2019-20 Course Syllabus

Plagiarism: Using words or ideas from a published source without proper documentation; using the work of another student (e.g. copying another student's homework, composition, or project); using excessive editing suggestions of another student, teacher, parent or paid editor.

Any student found to be in violation on any assignment will receive a grade of a 0 on the assignment in question. The assignment may not be made up.

Violations may be considered by faculty in making future recommendations.

Memberships in honor clubs will be jeopardized.