

7th Grade English Syllabi

Name of Course – 7th Grade English

Course Length – Year

Class Textbook/Materials

- *The Language of Literature*: McDougal Littell, 1997, ISBN:0395737028.
Kept in classroom, used for short story unit, Dickens' unit, persuasion unit, and Titanic unit.
- 6 Traits of Writing materials used throughout the year.
- Teacher-generated materials from multiple resources used during all units.
- From a list of adolescent novels, the students will choose one to study for their book project.

Description of the course

A language arts class which addresses reading, writing, vocabulary, grammar, listening, and speaking in alignment with the state standards.

Course content and learning objectives

The general objectives of this course are to improve written expression, develop an understanding of several genres of literature while developing reading skills, teach basic methods of research, stimulate oral and listening skills, and encourage pleasurable and thoughtful reading.

Topical units of study used to reach the objectives in sequential order include the interdisciplinary rain forest unit, short story unit, Charles Dickens' (Christmas Carol) unit, detective (Sherlock Holmes) unit, unit on persuasion, poetry unit, and Titanic disaster unit.

Daily/weekly assignments, grading procedures, and special projects

Assessment:

Assessment is ongoing throughout the units with the following methods used: quizzes, tests, unit projects, keynote presentations, research projects, written papers, oral expression, and class participation

Grading Procedures:

In English 7 assignments are weighted on an individual basis. Most assignments and quizzes are weighted equally, but tests, large research projects, computer presentations, and original writing assignments are given twice the value. Assignments checked for completion only are valued at one half a graded daily assignment.

Anyone who earns a "D" or "F" on a homework assignment may come in before or after school for individual help and then have opportunity to do the assignment again. The two grades will be averaged and the average will become the new grade.

Daily/Weekly Assignments:

Daily/weekly assignments are often taught as mini lessons. They include, "Word of the Week," grammar practice, "Poem of the Week," reading strategy lessons, and writing assignments. Each unit will also contain corresponding daily/weekly assignments including, but not limited to journals, vocabulary, practice worksheets, technology assignments, and cooperative group activities.

Special Projects:

The projects include, Short Story Writing, Literature Circle Novel Study, Victorian Era Research, Persuasive Essay, Poet Research/Keynote, Titanic Passenger Research, and Titanic Journal Project.

According to Geneseo CUSD #228 School Board Policy 6:60 and in compliance with Illinois School Code:

- In kindergarten through grade 8, subjects include: (a) language arts, (b) reading, (c) other communication skills, (d) science, (e) mathematics, (f) social studies, (g) art, (h) music, and (i) drug and substance abuse prevention.
- In all grades, character education must be taught including respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, trustworthiness, and citizenship in order to raise students' honesty, kindness, justice, discipline, respect for others, and moral courage.
- In all schools, the curriculum includes a unit of instruction on Black History, including the history of the African slave trade, slavery in America, and the vestiges of slavery in this country, as well as the struggles and contributions of African-Americans.