



New York Mills High School

Curriculum Document

Curriculum Area: English

Course Name: English

Common Course Catalog Number:

Length of Course: Two semesters

Pre-Requisite:

Grade Level: 7

Course Description

The first semester of English 7 will include a study of the elements of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. Students will also study basic grammar and usage, including subject and predicate, parts of speech, and subject-verb agreement. Students will write two compositions and two poems using the NCREL 6 Traits as a guide and assessment. Spelling and vocabulary will be studied on a weekly basis, and daily work will include Daily Oral Language, discussion, and note taking. As a class, students will read and discuss one novel, The Outsiders, and as independent work, students will be required to read and test on three Accelerated Reader books, as well as fulfill an independent reading contract.

For the second semester of English 7, students will continue to study grammar with a focus on punctuation and capitalization. Using the 6 Traits, students will write two more compositions. Weekly work will continue on spelling and vocabulary, as will daily work on Daily Oral Language, discussion, and note taking. There will be more work on fiction, with a focus on drama. Independent work will again consist of reading and testing on three Accelerated Reader books, as well as fulfilling an independent reading contract. As a class, students will also read and discuss one more novel, Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry.

Essential Learner Outcomes

*Students will be able to first summarize, then analyze and interpret a variety of literature from diverse cultures through understanding its elements, vocabulary, and structure, while supporting their ideas with cited evidence.

*Students will be able to summarize, analyze, compare and contrast, and evaluate the arguments within a variety of informational texts through an understanding of explicit and inferential information and the development of central ideas, while demonstrating knowledge of vocabulary, structure, and author's point of view.

*Students will be able to construct well-supported arguments, informative texts, and creative texts. Students will also conduct short research projects using evidence from multiple sources.

*Students will be able to cooperate and engage effectively in collaborative discussions, analyze and understand speakers' arguments in various formats, and use this knowledge to present information verbally and through multimedia work to an intended audience.

*Students will be able to effectively use proper English grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling in written and verbal communication. Students will build vocabulary and an understanding of figurative language and word relationships.

Units of Study

***Literature:**

Fiction—short stories as found in literature book; study of elements; study of reading strategies; novel study (The Outsiders and Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry)

Poetry—various poetic forms from literature book and other sources; study of elements

Drama—plays as found in literature book; study of elements

Independent Reading

***Informational Text:**

Nonfiction—literary nonfiction and essay found in literature book; study of elements;

MCA preparation—various informational texts

Research—background work for Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry

Independent Reading

***Writing:**

Review of 6+1 Traits of Writing (Ideas, Organization, Conventions)

Research—background work for Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry

Paragraph writing

Patriot's Pen essay

Movie Review

Journal writing

***Speaking, Viewing, Listening, and Media Literacy**

Internet web quests

Research—background work for Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry

The Outsiders project

Classroom discussion

Small group work

*CCR Anchor Language Standards

Vocabulary practice with classroom literature

Daily Oral Language

Grammar, usage, and style practice assignments

Editing and revising written work

The student will be able to

- Summarize and analyze literature and informational text.
- Understand the elements and structure of literature and informational text.
- Support ideas about literature with cited evidence.
- Understand how to study and build vocabulary.
- Understand how to analyze figurative language and word relationships.
- Compare, contrast and evaluate arguments within informational text
- Understand explicit and inferential information.
- Understand author's point of view.
- Construct a properly structured paragraph.
- Construct a well-supported argument.
- Use the writing process to write an informative text comparing and contrasting two ideas.
- Use the writing process to write a creative piece.
- Conduct a short research project.
- Cooperate and engage effectively in collaborative discussions.
- Present information verbally and through multimedia work.
- Correctly use and explain the function of phrases and clauses, avoiding misplaced and dangling modifiers.
- Understand how to use different sentence types: simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex.
- Effectively use proper English grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling in written and verbal communication.
- Choose and read literature and informative texts for personal enjoyment.