

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

COURSE: English

GRADE: 7 & 8

COURSE DURATION: 40 weeks, 40 min.

TEXT: Various

COURSE OUTLINE

- Writing includes descriptive, narrative, expository, creative, persuasive, and comparison essays
- As well as business letters, reports, research papers, and daily journals
- Reading includes (titles are subject to change yearly) novels, short stories, plays, poetry and nonfiction pieces
- Interdisciplinary units may include the following topics; WWII, the Holocaust and a Science Fair Research Project
- Integration of technology and skills work
- Vocabulary, spelling and grammar units
- Preparation for the ELA State Assessment with regard to the NYS Learning Standards

GRADING SYSTEM

- The use of a rubric for writing assignments with an emphasis on the writing process
- Class participation is graded periodically
- Tests and essays are weighted heavily

TRANSITION GOALS

- Reading and listening skills are continually developed through use of text-based details to show understanding
- Higher order thinking skills are developed through literary discussion and writing
- Basic writing skills are practiced; sentence structure, spelling, usage, paragraphing, and organization
- Test taking and writing strategies are practiced