



Center Middle School Course Syllabus

8th Reading/Language Arts

Course Description & Overview	Textbook or Curriculum Source	Assessments for Course
<p>This course is designed to strengthen students' skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and critical thinking, in alignment with the TEKS. Through a variety of genres-including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, and media-students will build analytical reading skills and deepen their understanding of literary elements, author's purpose, theme, and textual evidence.</p> <p>Writing instruction will focus on narrative, expository, argumentative, and persuasive compositions, with emphasis on organization, development of ideas, grammar, and revision. Students will also engage in research projects and practice using credible sources to support their ideas.</p> <p>In addition, students will develop vocabulary, learn to speak and listen effectively in discussions, and practice skills necessary for STAAR readiness. This course aims to prepare students not only for high school English but also for effective communication and literacy in real-world situations.</p>	<p>TEKS Resource System</p> <p>StudySync</p>	<p>8th Grade Reading STAAR</p> <p>Unit Assessments</p> <p>Writing Samples for ECRs and SCRs</p>

Course Content by Grading Period

1st Grading Period	Fundamentals of Communication, Analyzing and Composing: Nonfiction & Fiction
2nd Grading Period	Analyzing and Composing: Poetry & Drama, Analyzing and Composing: Informational Texts
3rd Grading Period	Rhetorically Analyzing and Composing Argumentative Texts, Interpretation and Response Across Genres
4th Grading Period	Research-Based Synthesis, Creation, and Innovation

Grading Policy

In determining the 9-week average, a minimum of 15 grades from different assignments or components of major projects must be recorded. When calculating a nine- weeks average, **NO ONE ASSIGNMENT GRADE MAY COUNT MORE THAN 20% OF THE TOTAL AVERAGE**, regardless of the grade category. Some major projects and writing samples may comprise more than one component and each component should be graded separately. In determining the nine-week average, grades will be divided into 2 categories and each category will count a designated percentage to determine student's grade. The 2 categories are; Assessments/Major Grade – Assessments, Performance Assessments, Major Projects/Papers will count TWICE Quizzes/Daily Work- will count one time Semester Average shall be determined by the following: Nine Weeks $\frac{1}{2}$ Nine Weeks $\frac{1}{2}$