

8th Grade Language Arts Syllabus 2022-2023

Teacher	Classroom Phone Number	School Email
Mrs. Berohn Mrs. Christus (6th Hr)	(720) 972-8301 (720) 972-5096	mary.berohn@adams12.org holly.christus@adams12.org
Mrs. Castellon Mr. Harrison	(720) 972-8306 (720) 972-5096	cas027517@adams12.org har019436@adams12.org
Mrs. Dunning	(720) 972-5109	tara.dunning@adams12.org

Course Description

This year-long class focuses on literature and writing. We will integrate reading and writing throughout each unit using Reader's and Writer's Workshop. Throughout the year, we will have six units of study, including:

- 1) The Art of Storytelling
- 2) Structuring Meaning
- 3) Conflicting Viewpoints
- 4) Rendering the Traditional New
- 5) Evaluating Choices
- 6) Integrating Media and Presenting Effectively

In addition, students will be expected to read books independently at home as **nightly** homework. **Homework will be assigned if the student does not finish their work in class.** This usually includes essays that are final summatives.

Supply List ** Please replenish throughout the year as needed.

- Mechanical Pencils or lead pencils
- Extra lead for pencils/pencils
- 2 Composition Notebook or Spiral notebook (bring to class daily)
- Folder with pockets
- 3 boxes of Kleenex to your 3rd hour teacher
- Clorox Wipes
- Bring your computer everyday to class!

Communication

Parents can access real-time grades and attendance on the Parent Portal of Infinite Campus by logging on to: <https://ic.adams12.org/campus/portal/adams12.jsp>.

- Phone calls and/or emails will be returned within 24 hours.
- If a student is not performing to his/her ability or if the student has unacceptable behavior that is disruptive to class, we will contact a parent/guardian by phone or email.
- Interventions may include:
 - After school or before school study sessions
 - Reteach and retest opportunities

Grading Policy: This course assesses students on common district criteria aligned to state standards. The criteria in 8th grade Language Arts are based on meeting the following standards:

- Standard 1: Oral Expression and Listening Skills
- Standard 2: Reading for all Purposes
- Standard 3: Writing and Composition
- Standard 4: Research and Reasoning

The rubric achievement levels are each 1 - 4. Teachers will grade all summative assessments with rubrics. In all courses, the higher the rubric score on a summative assessment, the better the student's demonstration of knowledge. At the end of the semester and year, teachers will issue a final trend mark for each criterion.

Teachers will determine the final trend mark by the knowledge the student demonstrates throughout the semester and year in each criterion. Teachers will consider summative assessments, formative assessments, observations, and student circumstances when giving a final trend mark.

Students' missing assignments, including work not attempted, completed, or turned in, will become part of the overall demonstration of knowledge that teachers will consider for a final trend mark. Every student has the right to take a summative assessment once. However, re-takes will not be permitted until all class work has been completed and a study session attended. Teachers will evaluate exceptions on a case-by-case basis. Students who complete 95% of class work will be allowed to retake assessments provided that the student attends a help/study session with the teacher. The study session requirements will be an agreement between the teacher and the student. Retakes of assessments must be completed by the end of the next unit. In addition, all make-up work must be completed by the end of the next unit. Students will always receive the highest grade they achieve on a test regardless of the number of times they attempt it.