

# 8th Grade Applied ELA Course Syllabus

## **Course Description/Goals:**

Students in 7th Grade Applied ELA will engage in modified Language Arts content to meet the individual learning requirements of the students as determined by the ARD committee. Applied Language Arts provides written communication skills as the major focus for eighth grade language arts students, including practice with narrative, descriptive, persuasive, and informative compositions using a process approach to writing. Reading and literary skills emphasized in eighth grade address critical and analytical thinking. Oral communication and study skills are applied through appropriate activities. **Research skills are strengthened through varied activities. Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.**

**NOTE: Students are required to pass the STATE of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) grade 8 mathematics and reading tests to be promoted to ninth grade.**

## **Course TEKS/Objectives:**

The 8th Grade ELA TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) embody the interconnected nature of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking through seven integrated strands. These strands include: developing and sustaining foundational language skills; comprehension; response; multiple genres; author's purpose and craft; composition; and inquiry and research. The strands focus on proficiency in oral expression and comprehension, authentic reading, and reflective writing. The strands are recursive, integrated, and progressive with students continuing to develop knowledge and skills with increased complexity in order to think critically and adapt to the ever-evolving nature of language and literacy.

<https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/laws-and-rules/sboe-rules-tac/sboe-tac-currently-in-effect/ch110b.pdf>

## **Course Outline:**

Semester 1	Semester 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Interacting with texts through annotation.</li><li>- Responding to texts in the form of informational essays</li><li>- Analyzing and interacting with a whole class novel</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Fiction Book Clubs</li><li>- Responding to Literary texts</li><li>- Analyzing &amp; Composing poetic and dramatic texts</li><li>- Student Choice Book Clubs</li></ul>

- Analyzing and interacting with argumentative texts
- Writing argumentative essays
- Nonfiction book clubs

- Formal inquiry and source analysis
- Developing and executing a research plan & giving formal presentations