

8th Grade ELA Course Syllabus

Course Description/Goals:

In 8th Grade ELA, students will focus deeply on developing written communication skills, including practice with narrative, descriptive, persuasive, and informative compositions using a process approach to writing. Reading and literary skills are geared towards critical and analytical thinking. Students will also practice oral communication, study, and research skills through varied activities.

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">- Interacting with texts through annotation.- Responding to texts in the form of informational essays- Analyzing and interacting with a whole class novel- Analyzing and interacting with argumentative texts- Writing argumentative essays- Nonfiction book clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fiction Book Clubs- Responding to Literary texts- Analyzing & Composing poetic and dramatic texts- Student Choice Book Clubs- Formal inquiry and source analysis- Developing and executing a research plan & giving formal presentations