Renaissance Middle School

Grade 9 English Language Arts
Instructional Syllabus
2025 -2026

RMS Course Syllabus	
Teacher Name	**Ms. Dominique Smith, smithd41@fultonschools.org**
Textbook	• **Textbooks: My Perspectives (Grade 9) Savvas Learning Company available on Classlink** • **Other Resources: A variety of other reading and writing material will be used related to the standards.**
Course Description	**This course focuses on a study of literary genres and informational texts; the students develop initial understanding of both the structure and the meaning of a literary work. The students explore the effect of the literary form regarding interpretation. The students will read across the curriculum to develop academic and personal interests in different subjects. Students will also demonstrate competency in a variety of writing genres: argumentative, informational/expository, and narrative. The students will engage in research, timed writings, and the writing process. Instruction in language conventions will occur within the context of reading, writing, and speaking, rather than in isolation. The students demonstrate an understanding of speaking and listening for a variety of purposes.** **Additionally, students will be required to complete assignments on various sites e.g., SAVVAS Realize, Canvas, Nearpod, Write Score, and iReady to name a few. These assignments will be discussed and assigned in class. Students are responsible for completing these assignments in a timely manner by checking the due dates on the assignments.**
Units of Study	• Unit 1: Survival • Unit 2: Journeys of Transformation • Unit 3: Literature of Civil Rights • Unit 4: Star-Crossed Lovers • Unit 5: American Voices • Unit 6: World's End

Grading Weights			
	Midde School Courses	**High School Courses**	**EOC Courses (2nd Semester)**
Major Assessments (ex. Tests)	50%	55%	40%
Minor Assessments (ex. Quizzes)	40%	35%	30%
Practice (ex. Classwork)	10%	10%	10%
EOC			20%

Recovery on Major Assessments:
Students in K-12 should be afforded the opportunity to recover all major assessments if they score below 75% on the assessment. Students are limited to one recovery attempt per major assessment that meets the threshold for recovery.

- Recovery of a major assessment should occur before the next major is given.
- Students are eligible to earn a replacement grade on a recovery that is not higher than 75%.
- Before recovery, the teacher should work with the student to complete missing work and/or ensure delivery of the content through reteaching and relearning.
- If a student's recovery is below the original score, the original score should stand in the gradebook.
- The original score should be noted in the comment section of the grade book if a student recovers a major assessment.

Late Work:
Students are expected to submit all their work on time. Percentage points will be deducted from the assignment grade for late work. The maximum percentage that can be deducted for late work is 10%.

Responsible AI Use Encouraged with Teacher Permission:
Students are encouraged to use AI tools responsibly in this course with teacher permission to assist with their learning and assignments. AI can serve as an aid to enhance understanding and interaction with course content, within the boundaries of academic integrity. All AI-generated content must be accurately cited, and students are responsible for the correctness of their submissions, including any content derived from AI tools. It is essential to critically evaluate AI outputs to ensure they meet academic standards. Use of generative AI, without proper citation, is considered a violation of the Fulton County Schools Code of Conduct and may result in disciplinary action.

Please return the signed syllabus to the instructor before the end of week one for extra credit. Students will keep the syllabus in their AVID Notebook.

Student Name (Print)	
Student Signature	
Parent Signature	
Parent Email Address	
Parent Phone Number	