KIRKWOOD
SCHOOL DISTRICT

CREATIVE WRITING 7-8

Board of Education Approved August 12, 2024

Course Description:
The seventh and eighth grade Creative Writing class is focused on the types of writing that are not heavily emphasized in the traditional ELA classroom. This class offers many opportunities for students to explore writing from the academic assignments provided in the ELA curriculum. The lessons will focus on the writer's craft, and there is a significant emphasis placed on style and voice. This class will expand upon previous writing techniques taught in the classroom, and it will deepen a student's knowledge and understanding of creative writing techniques. Students will be introduced to a variety of verse assignments, and then they will continue to use their writing skills to create longer pieces of prose. Students will ultimately embrace the creative process and learn the power of words while they work to find their own unique voice.

Grade Level: 7th and 8th Grades (semester)

Unit Scope and Sequence

Unit 1: Verse
Unit 2: Prose

Course Enduring Understandings:

- There are certain creative devices that an author can purposefully include in a work to enhance the writing and to provide reflection or discussion points for readers, as creative devices can lead to differing interpretations of scenes or texts.
- Literary devices can be used in either prose or poetry and each contributes to the creativity of a written work.
- It is up to a reader to analyze a work and consider the creative devices used by a writer when reading, interpreting and inferring beyond a text.

Course Essential Questions:

- How and why are we as humans drawn to stories?
- How does a writer decide which creative device to use when?
- During what times is it 'right' or a 'wrong' to use a specific literary device?
- Does the use of a device 'look' different when used within a different genre (i.e., within a narrative story vs. within a poem)?
- How are critiques and drafts important to the writing process?

CREATIVE WRITING 7-8
UNIT 1: VERSE

This unit gives students an opportunity to explore poetry by reading, writing and responding to poetry while expressing their creativity, feelings and emotions. Poetry allows students an opportunity to express their feelings and emotions as well as make connections to other people and situations. Poetry is a great way of enhancing students' reading, oral and writing skills.

Unit Essential Learning Targets	
Enduring Understandings	***Essential Questions***
• There are creative devices that an author can purposefully include in a work of verse to enhance the writing and to provide reflection or discussion points for readers. • Literary devices can be used in poetry and each contributes to the creativity of a written work.	• How does a writer decide which creative device to use when? • Is there a 'right' or a 'wrong' time to use a specific literary device?
Students must know:	***Students must be able to:***
• Verse • Simile • Metaphor • Extended Metaphor • Personification • Alliteration • Hyperbole • Onomatopoeia • Oxymoron	• Analyze the impact of a particular literary device in a poem. • Use literary devices for a particular intended purpose in a written piece of verse. • Write in verse.

Missouri Learning Standards

Analyze how specific word choices and sentence structures contribute to meaning and tone (8.RL.2.C).

Follow a writing process to produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, style, and voice are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience; develop writing with narrative, expository, and argumentative techniques (7-8.W.3.A).

- Narrative: Develop narratives including poems about real or imagined experiences which establish and maintain a consistent point of view and include clearly identified characters, well-structured event sequences, narrative techniques,and relevant descriptive details

Review, revise, and edit writing with consideration for the task, purpose, and audience (7-8.W.2.A).

A. Organization and content: Introduce the topic, maintain a clear focus throughout the text,and provide a conclusion that follows from the text. Add or delete content and change organization

to achieve the writer's purpose.

B. Word choice, syntax, and style: Choose precise language and make syntactical choices appropriate for the style, task,and audience
    c. Conventions of standard English and usage: Demonstrate a command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage, including spelling and punctuation.
    d. Use a variety of appropriate transitions to clarify relationships, connect ideas and claims,and signal time shifts.
    e. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing, present the relationships between information and ideas efficiently, and interact and collaborate with others

CREATIVE WRITING 7-8
UNIT 2: PROSE

Stories have been important to people and societies as long as they have existed. This unit gives students an opportunity to explore stories in prose by reading, writing and responding to them while expressing their creativity, feelings and emotions.

Unit Essential Learning Targets	
Enduring Understandings	***Essential Questions***
• Developing each of the various elements of a story make that story richer and more meaningful for the audience. • Literary devices can be used in prose and they contribute to the creativity of a written work. • It is up to a reader to analyze a work and consider the creative devices used by a writer when reading, interpreting and inferring beyond a text.	• How and why are we as humans drawn to stories? • Does the use of a device 'look' different when used within a different genre (i.e., within a narrative story vs. within a poem)? • How are critiques and drafts important to the writing process?
Students must know:	***Students must be able to:***
• Prose • Story • Character • Plot • Setting • Conflict • Resolution • Vignette • Narrative • Point of view • Myth • Dialogue • Mystery	• Analyze the impact of the elements of story in a work of prose. • Develop an original story utilizing literary devices and story elements. • Write prose.

Missouri Learning Standards

Analyze how literary devices are used to develop setting, reveal character, advance the plot, and contribute to meaning (8.RL.2.D).

Follow a writing process to produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, style, and voice are appropriate to the task, purpose,and audience; develop writing with narrative, expository, and argumentative techniques (7-8.W.3.A).

- Narrative: Develop narratives including poems about real or imagined experiences which establish and maintain a consistent point of view and include clearly identified characters, well-structured event sequences, narrative techniques,and relevant descriptive details