**Webb Bridge Middle School**

**2019-2020 English Language Arts 8 Syllabus**

***Through an inclusive community, we commit to cultivate each facet of each child in order to
have a positive impact on tomorrow’s world.***

**Exemplifying Excellence Every Day through the Webb Way!**

**Respect . Responsibility . Citizenship . Perseverance . Integrity . Positivity**

1. **Teachers:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Teacher Name | Email | Help Session Times |
| Lauren Mintz | mintzl@fultonschools.org | Monday, 8:10 |
| Traci King | Kingt@fultonschools.org | Monday, 8:10 |
| Salimah Karim | karim@fultonschools.org | Monday, 8:10 |
| Sarah Boltz | boltz@fultonschools.org | Monday, 8:10 |
| Julianne Hunter | Hunterj1@fultonschools.org  | Monday, 8:10 |
| Ali Striggles | strigglesA@fultonschools.org | Monday, 8:10 |

1. **Textbook:**

*Prentice Hall Literature Common Core Edition, Grade 8*

Useful Textbook Related Website:

<https://www.pearsonsuccessnet.com/snpapp/login/PsnLandingPage.jsp?showLandingPage=true>

1. **Course Description:**

This course is English Language Arts 8. In eighth grade English Language Arts, students continue to develop an appreciation of written and spoken language that now begins to extend beyond the school setting. They broaden their reading experiences through the study and analysis of compelling literature while continuing to develop their own writing styles. They independently apply the steps of the writing process to produce, revise, and publish informational and literary essays drawn from research. Goals and objectives for students with an Individual Education Plan and/or a 504 plan will be addressed in this course. Students will apply reading comprehension skills throughout this course.

*\*****If this is a TAG class, you should expect a much more differentiated curriculum that includes higher level thinking, problem-solving, and creative thinking skills. While we will be following the GPS curriculum, we also compact and enrich the existing curriculum to meet the challenging needs of our gifted students.***

1. **Course Outline:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **First Semester** | **Second Semester** |
| UNIT 1Reading: InformationalWriting: Argumentative | UNIT 3Reading: InformationalWriting: Research |
| UNIT 2Reading: FictionWriting : Expository | UNIT 4Reading : FicitonWriting : Multi-Genre |

1. **Grading Categories and Weights:**

All middle school course gradebooks at WBMS are set up the same:

* **60% - Summative** (evaluates learning and standards mastery at the end of an instructional unit; possibilities - tests, projects, presentations, papers, performance-based assessment, final exam [8th grade course only])
* **40% - Formative** (monitors, provides feedback, and checks in on student learning throughout the instructional unit; possibilities - quizzes, classwork, **graded** homework)
* **0% - Progress Reporting** (monitors, provides feedback, and checks in on student learning throughout the instructional unit but does not count in the course grade)

**The information provided below pertains to policies and procedures
consistent in every Webb Bridge Middle School classroom.**

**GRADING SCALE**
Letter grades will be assigned according to Fulton County’s approved grading scale, which is as follows: A—100-90, B—89-80, C—79-70, F—69-0.

**INFINITE CAMPUS**-Campus Parent and Campus Student Portal
The Infinite Campus portals - Campus Parent and Campus Student - provide access to information for all enrolled students in their household. Information includes grades, attendance, assignments, and school announcements.

Have questions regarding your Parent/Student Portal account? Help is available by calling 470-254-2700 Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. or by emailing campusparent@fultonschools.org

Please click here for more information- <https://www.fultonschools.org/infinitecampus>

**LOST/DAMAGED BOOK POLICY**Students are financially responsible for all books issued by Webb Bridge Middle School. Textbooks may not be left in classrooms, and teachers are not responsible for students’ books once books have been issued to the student. The copy issued to the student must be turned in at the end of the course. Students will not receive credit for turning in another student’s book, and students may not turn in replacement books. The cost of replacement will be assigned to any student that fails to turn in the exact book she/he was issued and/or to any student that turns in a damaged book.

**MAKE-UP WORK POLICY**Following an absence, it is the student’s responsibility to contact his/her teachers to arrange for make-up work. The contact must be made within one school day of returning. If the teacher is absent, contact should be made upon the first day of the teacher’s return.

Students are given the same number of days to complete make-up work as the absence, not including the day of return. For instance, if a student is absent two consecutive days, he/she has two days (not including the day of return) to complete the assignments. The teacher will establish a reasonable schedule for completing tests, labs, etc. that cannot be done independently by the student. The policy above applies to excused absences. Students with an excused absence are eligible to make-up work for full credit. While students are allowed to make up work due to unexcused absences, the make-up work for students with unexcused absences may be penalized up to 10% of the maximum value of the graded assignment.

Assignments made prior to the absence, including tests/quizzes scheduled for the day of return, are generally due upon the student’s return. Students who are present for any portion of the school day are expected to turn in all assignments due on that day in order to receive full credit.

Failure to complete make-up work within the designated time frame may result in a grade reduction for the assignment.

Assignments missed due to pre-approved absences are due upon the student’s return unless the teacher has approved other arrangements in advance.

**LATE ASSIGNMENTS:**In an effort to promote accountability, responsibility, and executive functioning growth, students are expected to submit academic work on the due date assignment by teachers. **Ten points** will be deducted each day an assignment is late, but will not exceed thirty points.  If the assignment would have earned an 80 or above if turned in on time, then 70 is the minimum score it will receive. Students may not submit late materials once the unit of study has ended. In other words, once the student has taken the summative assessment for the unit, the work that was due for that unit will remain “NHI” (not handed in), which counts as a zero in the gradebook.

**FINAL EXAMS:**Final exams will not be administered early; thus, students should make every effort to be present on the following dates: December 17, 18, 19 and May 19, 20, 21.

**HONOR CODE:**In an effort to embrace our value word integrity and to encourage good study habits, fair competition, and positive development in the area of academics, the Webb Bridge faculty supports a strong policy for academic honesty.  Student assignments turned in for grading should be the sole work of that individual student.  To prevent cheating, including plagiarism, students may not collaborate with other students or adults on their assignments unless the teacher has given explicit permission to do so. This includes the giving or receiving of information in any manner, including electronically. In situations where collaboration is allowed, the teacher will clearly define what level of collaboration is appropriate.  Under no circumstances is it acceptable for two students to submit identical work, unless the assignment included a group component that makes it permissible or copy and paste from a resource. Students are encouraged to consult with their teacher regarding what level of collaboration is acceptable prior to completing an assignment.

An environment of academic integrity is the work of all members of the WBMS community; thus, the duty to report any part of academic dishonesty falls on all including students. If any community member suspects or witnesses academic dishonesty, he or she is required to report the incident immediately (within 24 hours) to his or her teacher or administrator. Students who knowingly make false accusations are subject to disciplinary consequences.

Students who are found in violation of the WBMS Honor Code Policy will receive academic and disciplinary consequences. Students will be responsible for re-assessment up to 70 percent and disciplinary consequences will be based on the student's responsibility cycle. Classroom teachers will handle infractions that fall in the formative assessment category; grade level administrators will handle infractions that fall in the summative assessment category.

Students will learn about the school honor code and will sign an integrity commitment in Compass.

 \*No electronic device may be displayed during any assessment without the explicit direction from the teacher. Violating this requirement may result in an Honor Code violation.

**WBMS RECOVERY POLICY**

Re-teaching/Reassessment/Recovery

Student grades represent what a student knows, understands, and can do. To that end, if students are failing, they are not learning.  With this in mind, if a student fails a summative assessment or has a cumulative average of 74 or below he/she is eligible for reassessment/recovery. Once all work is completed, the student will be required to work with his/her teacher to participate in a re-teaching activity before reassessment to cement learning.   The highest grade that can be earned on this re-assessment is 74%. If the student does not work with the teacher to re-learn the standards and has not attempted to meet the course requirements, he or she will not be given the opportunity to re-assess. Students must complete the reassessment prior to the next summative assessment. All recovery work must relate directly to course objectives and must be completed ten school days prior to the end of each semester.

**Suggested academic skills to avoid reassessment may include:**

--Regularly attended help sessions

--Conferenced with teacher

--Completed all unit work

--Actively engaged in class

--Ask and respond to questions in class

--Completed study aides prior to assessments when provided

--Participate in class activities

--Taken notes and create study aides

**WBMS CONTENT HELP SESSIONS SCHEDULE**

Mondays: Language Arts/Reading/World Language

Tuesdays: NONE

Wednesdays: Math

Thursday: Social Studies and Connections

Friday: Science

**COMMUNICATION WITH FACULTY**

**Click to view the** [**WBMS Communication Protocol**](https://www.fultonschools.org/Page/14297)