



8th Grade-- Homeroom/ELA/Humanities 2026-2027

Mrs. Amigable

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Welcome 8th graders! This year we will strive to sustain a classroom environment that is welcoming and nurturing which will allow us the opportunity to grow and work to our full potential.

8th Grade Expectations:

- We will be prepared and always try our best.
- We will be truthful, kind, and act as Jesus taught us.
- We will have a positive attitude and understand we are all works in progress.
- We will respect ourselves, others, and our school.
- We will honor our mission as students and school leaders, and be active participants in the learning process.
- We will gracefully accept the consequences if we make choices contrary to school guidelines or classroom expectations. (uniform violations, cell phone or Technology Use Policy infractions, inappropriate language, academic dishonesty, improper behavior,...)

High School Enrollment information will be posted:

Emails, or announcements will be sent out at various times throughout the year. Please make sure to check any high school information emailed or posted to FACTS for updates. In order to begin the registration process please follow the high school links provided. Parents are responsible for registering their own students through the high school portal, and completing the process by providing the necessary documentation.

Graduation:

Graduation activities will be posted to the school calendar and parents will be notified of special events. Students will be reminded of the requirements for Honor Roll and CJSF throughout the year so they will be able to keep track of their own progress.

Course Texts and Novels:

History Alive! The United States Through Industrialism -TCI (provided)

History Alive! The United States Through Industrialism workbook-TCI (provided)

Grammar for Writing- Sadlier (provided)

*Vocabulary Workshop-*Sadlier (provided)

Writing Our Catholic Faith-Handwriting-Universal Publishing (provided)

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

The Winter People by Joseph Bruchac

Animal Farm by George Orwell

Night by Elie Wiesel

Fahrenheit 451

Supplies:

Student Planner (provided)

1- 1 ½- 2 inch three ring binder with dividers (tabs)

2-Single Subject Notebooks-college ruled

College ruled loose leaf paper

Lined 3x5 Index Cards

Highlighters

Blue or Black ball point pens (no felt, rollerball, or gel pens)

White-out tape, scissors, markers, colored pencils

Course Overview:

Welcome to 8th grade Humanities and English Language Arts! We are excited to challenge you to make associations and connections between literature and history. You will develop an understanding and appreciation of the political, economic, and social development of the United States with an emphasis placed on basic American principles, the contributions of various ethnic and cultural groups, and the development of democratic traditions.

You will learn to analyze different types of texts (short stories, novels, primary source documents, biographies, periodicals, and other non-fiction texts) as a means of exploring the impact of historical events on society. You will be expected to analyze and edit multiple genres of writing and write informational and persuasive essays. You will practice the skills of summarizing and responding to text using evidence and proper source citations when applicable. We will expect that you demonstrate grade-level writing competency which includes proper grammar, sentence structure and language mechanics for all written work. Needless to say, you will be well prepared for high school!

Course Themes:

- Patterns of Population
- Uses and Abuses of Power
- Worlds of Exchange
- Haves and Have-Nots
- Expressing Identity
- Science, Technology, and the Environment
- Spiritual Life and Moral Codes

Vocabulary:

Student writing will be strengthened by the study of words and their meanings. Twenty vocabulary words will be introduced weekly. Words will be taken from both the history and vocabulary texts. A test will follow each unit assessing comprehension and understanding how words are used in context.

Grammar:

Knowledge of grammar and language mechanics are essential in developing mastery in writing. Students will study punctuation, capitalization, word usage, correct sentence structure, and the parts of speech.

Writing:

Students will write using a variety of styles: expository, narrative, argumentative and persuasive. Students will continue to support claims using evidence from a text, integrate and analyze quotes, and cite sources using MLA format. Writing assignments will also be integrated with emphasis on a Humanities based approach to our subject matter. Our literature and novel studies will also reflect content taught in our Humanities class.

For handwritten work, students will use MLA format for a proper heading. Typed assignments must also follow MLA format (12 pt font, Times New Roman or Arial, heading, title, and correct citations when applicable).

Absent Work:

Please be proactive and let us know ahead of time you are going to be out of school so that we can help you get organized. You are responsible for making sure you gather the missing assignments or materials, ask the teacher, fellow students, FACTS, or Google Classroom. You will have 1 day per day of excused absences to turn in assignments (illness or family emergency). Please note that long term illnesses that last over three days may require a doctor's note. Vacations and competitions are not considered excused absences.

***Late work: Any late classwork or homework assignments will receive no more than 50% if completed within three days past the due date.**

Homework assignments, tests and upcoming projects or essays will be posted on the board in the classroom and on FACTS. **Daily in-class work may not be posted** and students will be responsible to make sure they keep track of in-class assignments as classwork will be 35% of the grade.

Grading:

Social Studies grades will include any work dedicated to Social Studies-TCI textbook and workbook assignments, history projects and presentations and writing assignments which incorporate historical themes or lessons. ELA grades will include vocabulary and grammar exercises, assignments, projects and presentations related to literature, novel studies, and language arts.

*For writing assignments and presentations that combine lessons from both Social Studies and ELA students may receive a grade in both subject areas for these assignments.

Grade percentages/values for Social Studies and English Language Arts:

Participation, IXL, Homework	10%
Assessments and Tests	25%
Essays/Projects	30%
Classwork	35%

Academic Dishonesty:

Student work must be authentic. Students will receive a zero on any work that is copied or plagiarized from another student or source, including internet sources and AI generated. Students will be reminded that they must cite information that is copied or paraphrased. (Changing a few words or phrases is still considered plagiarism.) Academic dishonesty may result in consequences other than receiving a zero as stated in the Parent-Student Handbook and Behavior Chart.

Behavior:

Responsible Behavior grades will be posted weekly and behavior points will reflect student infractions as outlined in the school handbook and reiterated in class. Students will be redirected or given a consequence during the school day. **Uniform infractions will lead to the loss of the Friday Spirit Wear/ or Free Dress privilege.** Parents may be notified if students have repeated infractions or inappropriate behavior.

8th Grade Homeroom/ELA/Humanities Syllabus

We have read and understand the 8th grade Homeroom and ELA/Humanities policies.

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____