

DEPARTMENT: ENGLISH	COURSE TITLE: ENGLISH 8
GRADE(S): 8	PRE-REQUISITES (IF ANY):

UNIT	LENGTH	CONTENT	SKILLS	METHODS OF ASSESSMENT	FRAMEWORK STRAND(S) & STANDARD(S)
War Experiences	9 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The theme of conflict (all students read <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> as an introduction to the concept) Students self-select one or more of the remaining books in the unit for individual and small group study of the elements of literature. 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate effective oral reading skills. Complete independent research on related topics. Make oral presentations. Demonstrate understanding of a variety of writing genres, including letters, poetry, short stories, reflection, vocabulary building and composition. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentations Writing samples Book analysis End of book test 	Language 1, 3, 4 Literature 10, 13, 18 Composition 20, 24 Media 26
Mythology	9 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Symbolism Word name origin Self-esteem building Connection between content and student Handouts of myths from world cultures Vocabulary: Hubris, Filial Piety, Archetype and Deus ex machina, paradox 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pose questions and listen to ideas of others. Examine Latin and Greek roots in the English language. Decode new words encountered in reading. Demonstrate reading comprehension. Understand the theme of hero. Demonstrate understanding of etiological tale. Understand the difference between myth and legend. Compare and contrast myths and heroes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creative writing, myth making Essays Original games Creation of brochures, pamphlets, scrapbooks, book jackets, posters, sculptures, videos and web pages 	Language 2, 7 Literature 8, 9, 11, 16 Composition 19, 22 Media 28
Courage and Determination	9 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine the themes of courage and determination Distinguish the subtleties of racism, bigotry and prejudice in reading Discuss the impact of decision making Distinguishing dominant culture within a society 	Students will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe and analyze regional dialect. Continue development of expository writing skills. Examine structure and elements of fiction. Examine author's choice of words and their impact. Summarizing to enhance reading and writing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays Letters to author Original poetic anthologies centered around a common theme Journals 	Language 6, 5 Literature 12, 15 Composition 21, 23

The Great Depression	9 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinguish the subtleties of racism, prejudice and bigotry. • Prejudice as a literary theme • Explore literary techniques of character development, conflict, climax and denouement • Examine impact of the Civil Rights Movement on literature 	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in formal and informal discussions. • Listen to the ideas of others. • Demonstrate vocabulary development. • Examine regional dialects. • Explore the Harlem Renaissance and other 20th century poetry movements. • Compare and contrast novels to media. • Develop rubrics for evaluation of written materials and presentations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral presentations • Essays • Dramatic readings and interpretations 	<p>Language 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 Literature 14, 17 Composition 25 Media 27</p>
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