

Tyrone Area Middle School
8th Grade Reading
2015-2016 Course Syllabus

Teacher: Sarah Latchford

Email: slatchford@tyrone.k12.pa.us

Room: 223

Classroom phone number 684-4240 ext 3223

Content: Discuss and explore various genres, literary terms, and vocabulary. Fluency passages will be used to increase fluency rate and accuracy.

Outcomes (Goals): Students will increase fluency, comprehension, and develop higher level thinking skills that will be cross curricular on different text type. Students will expand their vocabulary through the use of context clues and figurative language. Students will express their thoughts through various types of writing. In addition, students will interpret narrative, informational, and argumentative selections critically while using comprehension skills and strategies.

Assessment and Evaluation Criteria: Fluency checks, vocabulary review, and homework. Students' level of comprehension will be assessed using reading activities such as discussions, assignments, tests, quizzes, Type One and Type Two writing assignments. Throughout the year students will participate in developmental reading assessments and fluency checks. Progress monitoring will be used to monitor individual student fluency.

Grading System-The class will follow the TAMS grading scale:

100 99 98 97 A+	89 88 87 B+	79 78 77 C+	69 68 67 D+
96 95 94 93 A	86 85 84 83 B	76 75 74 73 C	66 65 64 63 D
92 91 90 A-	82 81 80 B-	72 71 70 C-	62 61 60 D-
59 and below F			
NCA –no credit due to attendance	NP- not passing	P-passing	

Rules and Expectations:

- Try your best. Every student should try their best. If you don't understand, just ask. That is what I am here for.
- Respect others and their property. Everyone should treat the others in the classroom and school with respect. This means treating people the way you want to be treated.
- Listen while others are talking.
- Come to class prepared. Have pencils and erasers ready for each class.
- Be responsible. You and only you are responsible for your work and your actions.

SOAR: Strive for Success, Observe Safety, Act with Integrity, Respect All

Special Requirements:

- If a student is absent they should approach the teacher for make-up work and complete it as soon as possible. If a student is absent on the day an assignment is due, the assignment is expected to be turned in on the day the student returns back to school.
- Extra credit will be awarded periodically for assignments.
- Late work will be accepted as completed, but for reduced points.

Other Important Information:

Students are expected to begin the daily bellringer each day as soon as they arrive to class. Students receive a check for completeness for a total of points at the end of each week. Students are not required to make up bellringers but are required to record in their notebooks that they were absent.

Students are required to have their agenda with them at all times. They will need to have this to leave the room as a hall pass.

Key Course Questions to be Considered

How does a student's fluency promote comprehension?

How does the interaction between student and text lead to better comprehension?

How does increasing your vocabulary make students stronger readers?

How does a reader use important literary tools to better understand a variety of genres?