

6th Grade Advanced Content Language Arts Syllabus

Barber Middle School 2019-2020

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The sixth grade Advanced Content Language Arts course implements the Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) in a way that is differentiated for gifted and advanced learners. These standards include reading, writing, research, communication, publishing, listening, speaking, and viewing. All standards are essential components of a successful Language Arts program. You can learn more about the academic rigor and instruction offered in the AC curriculum by visiting the Advanced Learning page on the CCSD website: <http://support.cobbk12.org/ALP/>.

OVERVIEW:

Each quarter, students will focus on reading, writing, listening, speaking, and viewing within the following Cobb County SpringBoard unit themes:

1st Quarter	Stories of Change
2nd Quarter	The Power to Change
3rd Quarter	Changing Perspectives
4th Quarter	The Final Act

GRADING SCALE:

40% Formative Assessments (classwork, homework, quizzes, etc.)

60% Summative Assessments (tests, projects, extended writing assignments)

This Class will adhere to the Cobb County Grading Policy and grade scale:

A	90 and above
B	80-89
C	74-79
D	70-73
F	Below 70

BLOG:

My blog will be updated daily before 6 PM. In each post, I will provide a summary of the day's activities, any homework, graded assignments, and any other pertinent information. Visit the blog for more information: <http://survivingenglish.edublogs.org>. I also maintain a 6th Grade AC ELA class page for resources and extended projects. This page is accessible via the tab on the home page of my blog and may be used in class and out of class to review lessons and work on assignments.

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HOMEWORK POLICY:

Homework is not a regular part of the language arts curriculum, so there is no specific grading category for it. The ability to produce a complete piece of writing **in class** is a priority. At times, students may be asked to complete unfinished assignments at home; however, these assignments will still be collected and graded as formative assessments (classwork). On rare occasions, students may be asked to complete a homework assignment that is intended to reteach or improve a specific skill. This decision will be made at the teacher's discretion and is intended to help students who may need additional practice in a particular area.

TEXTBOOKS:

The county's SpringBoard curriculum provides each student a work book that will be kept **in my classroom** for the duration of the year. Students will write in these books, but they cannot be replaced, so it is vital that each student takes responsibility for his or her own student workbook.

CLASSROOM LIBRARY:

As a part of the SpringBoard curriculum, I have been given a set of grade-appropriate young adult literature to supplement my classroom library. Because these books are the property of the county, students will be able to read these books in my room, but I will only check these books out to students on a very limited basis.

MAKE-UP POLICY:

It is the student's responsibility to make up any assignments missed while absent. Students will have one day for each day absent to complete missed assignments (per Barber policy). Students should consult their agenda, the class blog, and the missed work/assignments folder when they return. Per page 2 of the Barber Student Agenda under "General Information":

Students who are absent fewer than three days should refer to the teachers' blogs for assignments. For absences of more than three days, parents may call the counselor's office to request assignments. Students will be given one day per day absent to make up work unless there are mitigating circumstances.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Any student who fails to maintain an 80 (B) average in an AC class may be referred for probationary status. Probation is a twelve week evaluative period during which the student is given strategies and remediation to help improve the student's academic standing. If the student fails to maintain an 80 (B) average after this probationary period, he/she may be removed from the course and placed in an on-level equivalent course. Parents/guardians and the student will be notified and updated in the event that academic probation is needed.

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CHEATING/PLAGIARISM POLICY:

Cheating is any attempt to defraud, deceive, or mislead a teacher in assessing a student's understanding or mastery of a skill or concept. This includes presenting the work of others as one's own (plagiarism), receiving unauthorized assistance on assignments, sharing answers on classwork or tests, and any other act intended to falsify assignments or unfairly alter grades. Disciplinary action for cheating will be taken in accordance with point 13 of the Barber Rules and Expectations found on page 5 of the student agenda.

COMMUNICATION:

If you have specific questions or concerns, please email me: Justin.Franco@cobbk12.org

****This syllabus is subject to change depending on the needs of the students.****