



Lutcher High School

Mrs. Candace Richard
Room 203



Course and Contact Information

Course Title: 8th Grade English and Reading

Class Location: Room 203

Instructor: Mrs. Candace Richard

Email Address: crichard@stjames.k12.la.us

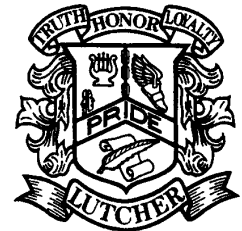
Planning Period: 7th/8th period

Textbook: Scholastics Expert 21 Series, Houghton Mifflin English, McDougal Littell Grammar for Writing



Required Materials

- Charged Laptop, Flash drive, Binder, Loose Leaf Paper, Dividers, Blue or black pens, Red pens, Pencils, Highlighters, Sheet protectors, Crayons, Colored Pencils, Markers, Glue Stick, Scissors, Personal Pencil Sharpener with Plastic Cover, Manilla Folder
STENO PAD
STICKY NOTES (SMALL AND REGULAR SIZE)
COMPOSITION NOTEBOOK



Course Content and Description Common Core State Standards (CCSS)

Reading and English, collectively known as English Language Arts (ELA), introduce students to the key skills and knowledge needed for mastery in the English language and the 21st century skills needed for college and career success. Guided by the Common Core State Standards, the course is a rigorous approach into the study of the various genres of classic and contemporary literature, high-interest informational texts, the traits of excellent writing and the process behind it, and the intricacies of English grammar, usage, and mechanics. Students will engage in reading, responding, writing, analyzing, and critical thinking for each piece of literature read in class. Students will learn the 6+1 Traits of Writing and work on improving their abilities for each trait. All of this will be accomplished in a challenging and fun environment characterized by high expectations for academic output and behavior.

The Common Core State Standards are 1) research and evidence based, 2) aligned with college and work expectations, 3) rigorous, and 4) nationally benchmarked. All of the standards fall under the umbrella of 5 much broader strands, which are listed below.

1. Reading for Literature
2. Reading for Informational Text
3. Writing
4. Speaking and Listening
5. Language



Course Requirements and Evaluation

*Due dates and topics of projects/activities and portfolio will be announced in class as well as posted on school fusion.

Academic Dishonesty Policy: As stated in the district student policy manual, if a student cheats on a test or plagiarizes he/she will receive one after school detention, an F on the test, and an office referral. As stated in the school policy, if any form of cheating occurs by an Honor student, the student shall be removed from the Honors class.

● Types of Grades Per Quarter

- Major Grades
 - Students will have several formal type assessment grades throughout each quarter including x-skills tests, inquiry tests, SSR participation, bellwork, essays, literature circle assessment, ect.
- Minor Grades
 - Students will have several minor grades throughout each quarter as well including journals/blogs, SSR assessments/comprehension graphic organizers, literature circle assignments, classwork, quizzes, ect.
- Homework
 - Students will be given homework on a daily and weekly basis. Homework will be posted on Moodle and on the white board weekly, but may be subject to change.
- Quarter Exam
 - At the end of each quarter, students will take a quarter exam which will cover everything taught in that quarter. The second and fourth quarter exams will be cumulative of the entire semester.

- **Grade Computing System**

- English and Reading***

- 45% Major Grades
 - 30% Minor Grades
 - 20% Quarterly Exams
 - 5% Homework

- **Grading Scale:**

| | |
|----------|----------|
| 93 – 100 | A |
| 85 – 92 | B |
| 75 – 84 | C |
| 67 – 74 | D |
| 0 – 66 | F |



Course Policies

Attendance Requirements

- Students have 5 school days to get an absence excused. In the case of excused absences, the student has 5 days complete makeup work. Extenuating circumstances will be dealt with on an individual basis.
 - The teacher will place any missed work in the drawers on the back table in the appropriate labeled day. The student is responsible for collecting and turning in his/her makeup work. Completed makeup work must be turned in to the Make-Up Work Drawer.
 - If a student is absent on a test day, he or she is responsible for making up the test within 5 days (if the absence is excused). Extenuating circumstances will be dealt with on an individual basis.
- By school and parish policy, if a student has an unexcused absence or tardy, he/she earns an “F” for each missed graded activity—No Exceptions.

Late Work Policy

Any assignment that is turned in past the due date will result in dropping the grade by ten percentage points for each day late. After five days, the grade will be a zero. THE STUDENT WILL NOT HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE-UP ANY LATE WORK AFTER FIVE DAYS. Extenuating circumstances will be dealt with on an individual basis.

Incomplete Work Policy

Any project or graded item (except tests) that is not turned in on time will result in the grade of "I" on the student's report card. That grade of "I" will remain on the report card until the student turns in the **completed** assignment. If the teacher believes that the work turned in is not completed in full, the grade of "I" will remain and the students will have to complete the work. If the "I" still remains by the end of the next grading period, the grade will be changed to "F." If a student retains a grade of "I" by the end of the term, **in any grading period**, that student will receive a grade of "F" as their final grade, regardless of their other grades, causing them to fail the class (See LHS Student Handbook).

Continued Learning in Extreme Emergencies

Contact between the teacher, parent and student can be made electronically. Assignment information will be posted on moodle. See district website for announcements

Online Communications Guidelines

The word "netiquette" is short for "Internet etiquette." You should be aware of the common rules of netiquette for the Web and employ a communication style that follows these guidelines. Blog topics should be treated as serious classroom discussion only, unless noted by the teacher. Be mindful that all correspondence using St. James Parish Public School System's equipment and software is monitored at all times. By signing, you have agreed to follow the St. James Parish Public School System's Acceptable Use Policy and Electronic Communications Policy.



Class Expectations

*Class expectations and procedures are discussed in detail the first week of school as well as throughout the year.

- All students are to remain on task at all times.
- Come to class prepared to learn.
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself at all times.
- Respect yourself, others, and property at all times.
- Use quiet voices in the classroom.