**Fall 2015 Course Outline: Middle School Language Arts (6-8)**

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| **Description and Overview:** Language Arts is a course designed to begin preparation for high school English courses. Students be exposed to and practice a variety of literature and writing genres. | |
| **Literature Reading and Analysis:**  1) Responses to Literature and Informational Texts – Every learning period, you will be assigned five to six literature pieces and/or informational texts to read. The stories and texts will be provided by the teacher. ***For full credit, please answer thoroughly and in complete sentences.***  2) Novel Reading – Each semester, we will be read a selected novel in its totality and complete meaningful assignments related to the text.  **Writing Assignments:**  Regular Writing Assignments – Every learning period, you will be assigned writing projects and essays which vary in format and genre. These need to be typed and should reflect your very best effort. Rubrics will be provided so that you know how your writing assignment will be evaluated. Where possible, model samples will also be provided. This semester, we will focus on the following:   1. Multi-genre-based writing (fiction and non-fiction). 2. Literary writing activities based on novel reading.   **Vocabulary**  The vocabulary requirement will be met through the completion of assignments and assessments embedded in the reading and analysis of fiction and non-fiction*.* Students will expand their vocabulary through content-based exercises and applications. | **Approximate Weighting of Assignments & Assessments:**  Responses to Literature/Reading Assignments 30%  Writing Assignments 30%  Participation/Attendance 10%  Vocabulary/ Grammar 10%  Projects and Presentations 20%  **Attendance:**  Weekly and punctual attendance is expected and necessary for student success. |
| **Suggested Materials:**   1. 1 ½ inch binder 2. Notebook 3. Pencil 4. Highlighter 5. Notebook dividers 6. Self-Guided Novel |
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