

## Eighth Grade Literature and Composition Course Syllabus 2005-2006

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Week	What we hope to accomplish during the First Semester
8/25-26 Th-F	<i>SPEAK</i> : discuss and write about our summer reading
8/29	WORLDVIEWS: terms, concepts, activities, and written responses Begin Journal Writing Program
9/5 T-F	The Worldview Essay: approaches and drafting
9/12	The Worldview Essay: sharing and revisions
9/19	COMPOSITION BOOTCAMP I: Expectations-Cohesion-Coherence Egghead Proverbs: clarity vs. obfuscation
9/26	Sentence Style: Compound, Complex, and Cumulative Sentences Sentence combining and prose style
10/3	Coordination and Subordination
10/10 M-W	<i>OF MICE AND MEN</i> : chapters 1-3 read, discuss, & analyze
10/17 M-Th	<i>Of Mice and Men</i> : chapters 4-6 read, discuss, & analyze
10/24 M-Th	<i>Of Mice and Men</i> : guided paragraph and essay writing (end of 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter)
10/31	The Vietnam Experience: Reading short fiction from <i>The Things They Carried</i> and <i>A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain</i>
11/7 M-Th	Rhetorical analysis and further DC preparation: JFK & MLK speeches
11/14	<b>WASHINGTON, DC—NO CLASSES</b>
11/21	<b>THANKSGIVING—NO CLASSES</b>
11/28	Washington DC: written reflections and photo journals
12/5	Comparing 1860's and 1960's prose styles in <i>War Letters</i> ERB Writing Samples
12/12	POETRY: Giving Shape to Experience
12/19 M-W	Reading and Analyzing Poetry, continued
	<b>HOLIDAY BREAK</b>
1/2/06 W-F	Poetry Writing and Sharing
1/9	Poetry Writing and Sharing, continued

<b>Week</b>	<b>What we hope to accomplish during the Second Semester</b>
1/16 T-F	Poetry Writing and Sharing, continued
1/23	<i>STAYING FAT FOR SARAH BYRNES</i> : chapters 1-9 Student directed discussion
1/30	<i>Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes</i> : chapters 10-epilogue Student directed discussion
2/6	<i>Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes</i> : further discussion and written responses
2/13	Essay structure and revision (history and science comprehensive tests)
	<b>WINTER BREAK</b>
2/27	COMPOSITION BOOTCAMP II: 14 Ways to Modify a Sentence
3/6 M-Th	14 Ways to Modify a Sentence
3/13 M-Th	14 Ways to Modify a Sentence
3/20 T-F	<i>THE LORD OF THE FLIES</i> : chapters 1-6 read, discuss, & analyze (end of 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter)
3/27	<i>The Lord of the Flies</i> : chapters 7-12 read, discuss, & analyze
4/3 M-Th	<i>The Lord of the Flies</i> : further discussion & written responses (English and math comprehensive tests)
	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>
4/17	SHORT FICTION: Human Experience Condensed
4/24	Reading and Studying Short Fiction, continued
5/1	Archetypes and the Mythic Journey (ERB testing)
5/8	Short Story Writing
5/15	Short Story Writing, continued
5/22	Short Story Revision and Sharing Portfolio Selections
5/29 T-F	Portfolio Reflections
6/5	Finale & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Appreciation Day (Monday) Commencement (Tuesday)