



GT/Humanities ELAR 6th Grade 2022-2023

Leanna Starr Cochrane

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Conference: Period 1

Tutoring Opportunities: Updates posted on classroom door and sent via Remind weekly.

Tutoring Opportunities:

3:45-4:05 pm Tues. Wed. Thurs.

7:45-8:15 am Friday Only

Posted on door As Well

Class Supplies Needed:

2 Wide Ruled Lined Composition Notebooks 1 for each semester

1 Package of wide ruled loose-leaf notebook paper specifically for this course given to the classroom supply.

Class Materials:

- Canvas (tutorials provided in class on using this tool)
- Office 365 (Microsoft Office, Excel, Sway, OneNote, etc.)
- Binder with paper and pencil daily
- Novels varying per 6 weeks
- Composition Notebooks for each semester

Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

Course Description:

GT/Advanced Humanities English Language Arts and Reading 6A/6B

This GT/Advanced Humanities ELAR course explores the reading-writing connection as students apply previously learned skills in increasingly more complex texts, presentations, and compositions. Students will develop intellectual character by pursuing a conceptual question for each unit to engage in complex thinking about advanced content. Students will pursue the same question in GT/Advanced Social Studies through multiple lenses. These units entail independent research, collaborative problem-solving, and a significant amount of reading and writing to produce real-world products. Furthermore, students write to interpret and analyze literary, informational, and argument works on a regular basis, some of which will include in-class, timed writings. There is a significant amount of reading and writing in this course, which assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Advanced Academics program through sustained habits necessary for college success. Prerequisites: Students must be identified as gifted/talented or must have scored masters grade level on Reading/Language Arts STAAR for 4th or 5th grade.

Course Goals:

A central goal of the English language arts and reading (ELAR) department is to establish and support a consistent reading habit in the busy lives of students, which is a shared partnership between teachers, students, and parents. In ELAR classes,

students will engage in both required and self-selected texts. Through both assigned and independent reading, students will continue to develop their confidence, build vocabulary, increase reading fluency and stamina, and improve their writing skills.

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

- Analyze how the author uses literary techniques and figurative language to convey meaning within literary texts
- Investigate and synthesize information presented across multiple texts
- Utilize critical thinking while responding to literary texts
- Use the writing process to compose, revise, and edit essays over assorted topics
- Compose informational, argumentative, and literary essays that establish a clear controlling idea, use appropriate organizational strategies and language, sufficiently develop ideas with specific details and examples, and demonstrate an adequate command of grade-appropriate written conventions.

Student Evaluation:

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Middle School (on-level and Advanced) • 60% Major • 40% Minor
- High School (on-level and Advanced (Level II)) • 60% Major • 40% Minor
- HS/MS AP • 70% Major • 30% Minor
- Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
- Each six weeks will count as 1/3 of the semester grade.
- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student’s conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), “The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments and quizzes. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.
- Official grades will be in Skyward only and can be accessed by student and parent through Family Access.

Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:

You have chosen to take an advanced course; you will be expected to complete some of the work outside of class. Additionally, students are expected to spend a minimum of an hour outside of class reading an appropriate reading level novel to which they will be submitting responses.

Any incomplete classwork will become homework. Students are expected to turn incomplete classwork in the following school day. Assignments are due when they are taken up by the teacher. Points may be deducted for late assignments, however, a grade of zero will be recorded in the gradebook until the work is received. Students may turn assignments in late; however, once the assignment is three school days late, a grade of zero will be official. Students and parents will be notified of any long-term project well in advance of any grades being taken. Additionally, any project requiring attention away from the classroom will be tracked and monitored by both Mrs. Brownlee and the student to ensure success!

Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:

Participate **every day** in class. Instructional time is bell-to-bell each day, so if you are not physically present and engaged, you are missing valuable learning!

1st two tardies = Warning; 3rd Tardy = Parent Contact; 4th + Tardy = Office Referral; *Tardies will affect your citizenship grade.*

Should you become ill and unable to attend class, please reach out to Mrs. Starr through email for your assignments. Otherwise it is expected that you see Mrs. Starr outside of class time on the day you return to retrieve any work/instruction you may have missed. This should be done before or after school/class, but never during instructional time.

Please note: **YOU** are responsible for any assignments, notetaking, or learning that you miss due to an absence.

Classroom Expectations:

- Be prompt & prepared.
- PARTICIPATE.
- Be polite.

Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

Students will participate in Reading and Writing Workshops covering a variety of genres and topics. Please see parent letter issued through Family Access at the beginning of the school year.

Academic Integrity: Update from GRH

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.