



Webb Bridge Middle School
2023-2024 8th Grade Language SYLLABUS

Through an inclusive community, we commit to cultivate each facet of each child in order to have a positive impact on tomorrow's world.

Exemplifying Excellence Every Day through the Webb Way!

Respect • Responsibility • Citizenship • Perseverance • Integrity • Positivity

1. Teachers:

<u>Teacher Name</u>	<u>Email</u>
Harvey, Whitney	harveyw1@fultonschools.org
Healy, Marianne	healym@fultonschools.org
Karim, Salimah	karim@fultonschools.org
Lawrence, Mary	lawrencem@fultonschools.org

2. Textbook:

- Cost of replacement textbook – Current price

3. Course Description:

This course is **English Language Arts 8**. In eighth grade English Language Arts, students continue to develop an appreciation of written and spoken language that now begins to extend beyond the school setting. They broaden their reading experiences through the study and analysis of compelling literature while continuing to develop their own writing styles. They independently apply the steps of the writing process to produce, revise, and publish informational and literary essays drawn from research. Goals and objectives for students with an Individual Education Plan and/or a 504 plan will be addressed in this course. Students will apply reading comprehension skills throughout this course.

****If this is a TAG class, you should expect a much more differentiated curriculum that includes higher level thinking, problem-solving, and creative thinking skills. While we will be following the GPS curriculum, we also compact and enrich the existing curriculum to meet the challenging needs of our gifted students***

4. Course Outline:

First Semester	Second Semester
Unit 1 Reading: Literary Writing: Narrative	Unit 4 Reading: Informational Writing: Argument
Unit 2 Reading: Informational Writing: Argument	Unit 5 Reading: Literary Writing: Informational and Narrative
Unit 3: Reading: Literary Writing: Informational	

**The information provided below pertains to policies and procedures
consistent in every Webb Bridge Middle School classroom.**

GRADE CATEGORIES AND WEIGHTS

Teachers work with their PLC to create Balanced Assessment Plans prior to each unit of study. Not all assessments are graded or count in a student's average. Grades are a representation of what a student knows, has learned and can demonstrate. All middle school course gradebooks at WBMS (and in Fulton County) are set up the same:

- **50% - Major:** An assignment or assessment that is cumulative in nature that measures learning targets from multiple standards/skills.
- **40% - Minor:** An assignment or assessment that measures an individual learning target, standard, or subset of learning targets/standards/skills within a unit.
- **10% - Practice:** Daily assignments, observations, and/or engagement activities given in class or for homework to build pre-requisite skills, measure progress towards mastery of a learning target or standard, enrich, and/or remediate skills.

Please click to view the [FCS Middle School Grading policy](#)

High School courses at WBMS (and in Fulton County) are set up the same:

- Majors: 55%
- Minors: 35%
- Practice: 10%

Please click to view the [FCS High School Grading](#)

WBMS Grading Specifics:

- For Major and Minor categories: 5 points a day will be taken off for 5 school days, totaling up to 25 points.
- Teachers may enter M (which calculates as a zero) for missing work. Missing work must be submitted before the final ten days of the semester (unless for a 9-week course). Up to 25 points will be deducted from the mastery score.
- No final exams or midterms (defined as an assessment which is cumulative in nature) will be given for middle school courses.
- Assessment Calendar-Teachers will record all major and minors on school Assessment Calendar. No more than three Major/minor a day, no more than two can be Major.
M (uppercase) Major m (lowercase) minor

GRADING SCALE

Letter grades will be assigned according to Fulton County's approved grading scale, which is as follows: A—100-90, B—89-80, C—79-70, F—69-0.

PROVISION FOR IMPROVING GRADES

Re-teaching/Reassessment/Recovery

Teachers should provide opportunities for each student K-12 to continue learning material that has not yet been mastered even if the student's grade is not replaced.

- Students in K-12 should be afforded the opportunity to recover all major assessments if they score below 75% on the assessment.
- Students are limited to one recovery attempt per major assessment that meets the threshold for recovery.
- Recovery of a major assessment should occur before the next major is given.
- Students are eligible to earn a replacement grade on a recovery that is no higher than 75%.

- If a student's recovery is below the original score, the original score should stand in the grade book.
- Before recovery, the teacher should work with the student to complete missing work and/or ensure delivery of the content through reteaching and relearning.
- The original score should be noted in the comment section of the grade book if a student recovers a major assessment.

If students are struggling, these are suggested academic skills to avoid reassessment may include:

- Regularly attended help sessions
- Conferenced with teacher
- Completed all unit work
- Actively engaged in class
- Ask and respond to questions in class
- Completed study aides prior to assessments when provided
- Participate in class activities
- Taken notes and create study aides

WBMS CONTENT HELP SESSIONS SCHEDULE

- **HELP SESSION SCHEDULE (Students may attend any teacher's help session)**
- **Monday—ELA/Reading/World Language (by appointment ONLY)**
- Tuesday--None
- Wednesday—Math
- Thursday— Social Studies and Connections
- Friday—Science

Students will receive feedback each 9 weeks on [non-academic skills](#)

INFINITE CAMPUS-Campus Parent and Campus Student Portal

The Infinite Campus portals - Campus Parent and Campus Student - provide access to information for all enrolled students in their household. Information includes grades, attendance, assignments, and school announcements.

Have questions regarding your Parent/Student Portal account? Help is available by calling 470-254-2700 Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. or by emailing campusparent@fultonschools.org

Please click here for more information- <https://www.fultonschools.org/infinitecampus>

LOST/DAMAGED BOOK POLICY

Students are financially responsible for all books issued by Webb Bridge Middle School. Textbooks may not be left in classrooms, and teachers are not responsible for students' books once books have been issued to the student. The copy issued to the student must be turned in at the end of the course. Students will not receive credit for turning in another student's book, and students may not turn in replacement books. The cost of replacement will be assigned to any student that fails to turn in the exact book she/he was issued and/or to any student that turns in a damaged book.

MAKE-UP WORK POLICY

Students should make every effort to complete any missing work in a timely manner. Upon return to school, students will have an equal number of days as they were absent to complete any late/missing assignment,

assessment, and/or task for full credit. Teachers may begin deducting points from late/missing assignment, assessment, and/or task after the deadline has not been met.

COMMUNICATION WITH FACULTY

[WBMS Communication Protocol](#)

HONOR CODE:

To embrace our value word integrity and to encourage good study habits, fair competition, and positive development in the area of academics, the Webb Bridge faculty supports a strong policy for academic honesty. Student assignments turned in for grading should be the sole work of that individual student. To prevent cheating, including plagiarism, students may not collaborate with other students or adults on their assignments unless the teacher has given explicit permission to do so. This includes the giving or receiving of information in any manner, including electronically. In situations where collaboration is allowed, the teacher will clearly define what level of collaboration is appropriate. Under no circumstances is it acceptable for two students to submit identical work, unless the assignment included a group component that makes it permissible or copy and paste from a resource. Students are encouraged to consult with their teacher regarding what level of collaboration is acceptable prior to completing an assignment.

An environment of academic integrity is the work of all members of the WBMS community; thus, the duty to report any part of academic dishonesty falls on all including students. If any community member suspects or witnesses academic dishonesty, he or she is required to report the incident immediately (within 24 hours) to his or her teacher or administrator. Students who knowingly make false accusations are subject to disciplinary consequences.

Students who are found in violation of the WBMS Honor Code Policy will receive academic and disciplinary consequences. Students will be responsible for re-assessment up to 70 percent and disciplinary consequences will be based on the student's responsibility cycle. Classroom teachers will handle infractions that fall in the formative assessment category; grade level administrators will handle infractions that fall in the summative assessment category.

Students will learn about the school honor code and will sign an integrity commitment in Compass.

*No electronic device may be displayed during any assessment without the explicit direction from the teacher. Violating this requirement may result in an Honor Code violation.