

### Course Description:

In this course, students will explore both literary and informational text. They will read literature written by great authors such as Ray Bradbury, Kurt Vonnegut, Edgar Allan Poe, and Maya Angelou. They will experience political speeches, film adaptations, and videos. Students will explore these texts and others to discover how each communicates its unique message to the audience.

Students will deepen their understanding of writing by learning about authors' tools like figurative language and implied meaning. They will also gain experience with the bigger picture by learning about the works' central ideas and themes. This course also provides students with opportunities to learn new vocabulary and hone their language skills. Students will become reacquainted with commas, dashes, context clues, passive voice, and more. Students will become stronger readers and better writers.

This course is not just about reading and analyzing texts. Students will be writing them, as well. They will begin by learning the skills that all writers are familiar with—like starting with a research question and using accurate search terms. They will then apply those skills as they write an informational essay and an argument essay. Students will go through each writing project step by step.

Through the lessons in this course, students will master skills and deepen knowledge to understand and appreciate the informational and literary texts they encounter.

### Course Objectives:

- Determine how story elements impact the overall structure and forward movement of a story.
- Identify key individuals, ideas, and events in informational text.
- Identify different context clues.
- Build vocabulary knowledge and comprehension.
- Determine the credibility of sources.
- Identify inferences in informational and literary text.
- Identify central ideas and themes in literary text.
- Analyze the use of figurative language, connotation, and technical language in informational and literary text.
- Identify roots and affixes.
- Identify different types of verbals and their functions.
- Determine central ideas and key concepts in informational text.
- Identify specific organizational structures in informational text.
- Identify passive voice as well as different phrase and clause types in informational text.
- Compare and contrast one author's evidence and/or viewpoints with the evidence and/or viewpoints of a conflicting author.
- Identify and analyze claims and evidence.
- Identify inferences in informational and literary text.

- Identify and describe the characteristics, purposes, advantages, and disadvantages of the various mediums.
- Write arguments to support claims, using clear reasoning and evidence.

### Required Materials:

All Graphic Organizers can be found in the Graphic Organizer Library, as well as each specific activity plan.

\*Additional materials are listed in the course.

### Course Overview:

- This course creates an engaging learning experience that provides students with instruction, videos and animations and the opportunity to further explore and practice course concepts with selected readings, workbook exercises critical thinking activities, discussion board, checkpoints, writing projects and unit exams.