



Blue Ridge Middle School

We are BR!

English Studies 6th

6th ELA Teaching Team: Nancy Rutledge (6-3), Tara Sargent (6-2), Brianna Cagle (6-1), Jeff Schroeder(Inclusion)

Tara Sargent (6-1)

Room #	610	Phone #	355-1922	Email address	tesargent@greenville.k12.sc.us
Website Link	Mrs. Sargent's Website	Office Hours	Tuesday AM 7:40-8:10 Thursday AM 7:40-8:10	Weekly Team Plan Link	6th Lesson Plans

Course Description:

[Link to state standards](#)

Textbook Title: 6th ELA will be using a textbook, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, *Into Literature*, Grade 6, along with a variety of novels for instruction and book group learning. A booklist is available on this syllabus and student selected independent novels will come from the BRMS media center or the student's home. The online textbook for 6th grade is available through student chromebooks: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, *Into Literature*, Grade 6.

Title: English Studies 6th Course Number: 10013100 Unit Credit: 0 Grade Level: 6

English Studies 6 is designed to prepare students for College and Career readiness as required by the South Carolina State Standards. The curriculum exposes students to a variety of genres, both literary and informational. Placement Recommendation - Successful completion of grade 5.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of 6th grade, your child will be able to:

1. Analyze Literature – Explain how characters, plot events, and figurative language develop meaning and themes in stories and poems.
2. Understand Informational Texts – Identify central ideas, analyze how authors structure their arguments, and compare different perspectives on the same topic.
3. Build Vocabulary – Use context clues, prefixes, suffixes, and Greek/Latin roots to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words.
4. Write Argumentative Essays – Make a clear claim, support it with evidence from credible sources, and acknowledge opposing viewpoints.
5. Write Informative/Explanatory Texts – Organize facts and ideas logically, use topic-specific vocabulary, and explain concepts clearly.
6. Write Narrative Stories – Create original stories with well-developed characters, settings, dialogue, and plot structure.
7. Use Proper Grammar & Conventions – Write with correct punctuation, capitalization, sentence variety, and clear pronoun usage.
8. Present & Discuss Ideas – Share opinions and information through oral presentations and participate meaningfully in class discussions.
9. Conduct Research – Develop research questions and gather information from multiple sources to explore topics in depth.
10. Revise & Improve Writing – Review and edit their own work to make it clearer, stronger, and more effective.

MagicSchool/Generative AI

STUDENTS MAY ONLY USE MAGIC SCHOOL/Generative AI WHEN SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED BY THE TEACHER.



MAGIC SCHOOL





This year, students will use MagicSchool AI, a generative AI platform designed specifically for education.



Students will use these tools for real-time feedback and dynamic problem-solving.



MagicSchool strictly protects privacy and does not collect or utilize student data.



As tools like ChatGPT and Gemini become standard in the professional world, utilizing MagicSchool prepares students for the future workforce by teaching safe and responsible technology use.



To ensure appropriate use, teachers retain access to all student chats.



All AI software, including MagicSchool, complies with GCS Board Policy and Administrative Rule IA.



GENERATIVE AI



This course may utilize generative AI tools, such as MagicSchool and Google Gemini, to supplement traditional instruction. Greenville County Schools prioritizes the ethical use of these technologies for brainstorming and self-guided learning.

**1 CRITICAL THINKING FIRST:**
AI must not replace original thought or coursework.

**2 ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:**
Using AI to complete and submit assignments as original work constitutes plagiarism.

**3 REQUIRED CITATION:**
If teacher-approved, all AI use must be properly cited.

**4 CONTENT AWARENESS:**
Students must remain vigilant regarding potential biases and inaccuracies in AI-generated content.

**5 POLICY COMPLIANCE:**
All AI programs align with GCS Board Policy and Administrative Rule IA.

Classroom Late Work and Redo/Retake Policies

Late Work

Greenville County Schools is committed to Building a Better Graduate by creating college and career ready students. As such, students must develop character traits that align with workplace expectations. Some examples of these include responsibility, strong work ethic, and self-direction. Students are expected to give their best effort when completing assignments and should strive to complete them by the due date. Students are expected to turn in ALL assignments and should never have a Not Handed In (NHI) recorded in the grade book. Extra opportunities are available for students to make up work through ROAR, tutoring times, and at other times designated by the teacher. Teachers will accept late work with no penalty to the student up to 5 days after the original due date or the end of the grading period, whichever comes first. Points will not be deducted for late work.

Units will be broken up by major assessments and project based work in each quarter.

[BRMS Student +Handbook](#)

Retake/Redo/Revise Expectations

Since the goal is for students to master content and skills, students will be allowed to retake/redo major tests only; however, students must commit to doing their part in preparing for the re-test. **Students must initiate the request** to retake/redo a test within 5 days of receiving the grade on the test. Students must attend at least one office hours session prior to the retake. Students are allowed to retake/redo a major test one time. The student must complete a **BRMS Request to Retest form**, which can be found in the teacher's Google classroom, and submit the form to the teacher. The form must be signed by the parent and student prior to being submitted. Following a re-test, the higher grade will be recorded in the grade book.

BRMS Request to Retest Form

Make-up Work Policies: It is the responsibility of each student to inquire about make-up work upon returning from an absence. Students must also check google classroom for classwork and homework information for any days missed.

***The Student Backpack is an essential tool for accessing grades. Google Classroom will be your greatest asset for staying up to date.*



Classroom Guidelines and Expectations

School Expectations

Class Expectations:

Listen to the teacher, and ignore others who try to distract you!

Use Accountable Talk and Respect Others through words actions.

BLUE RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

"We are BR where positive attitudes and understanding hearts make a great school community."



BRMS ROARS

Classroom Behaviors



R
Respect

- Follow directions
- Stay on task
- Participate



O
Organization

- Bring all materials
- Complete all assignments



A
Attitude

- Use kind words
- Be helpful
- Give your best effort



R
Responsibility

- Make smart choices
- Listen actively
- Be honest

and

We are BR...hear us...



Respect
Organization
Attitude
Responsibility

Materials Needed: BRMS 24-25 Supply List	Grades	Homework	Grading Scale	Independent Reading Books
Chromebook charged Pencil Composition notebook Independent reading book Earbuds/headphones Agenda Folder	3 majors and 8 minors will be assigned per quarter. Major assignments will range in the forms of essays, tests, and projects and they will each contain a rubric.	Homework will be assigned on a need-to-complete basis regarding extended deadlines. Independent reading outside of school is optional, but encouraged.	90-100 80-89 70-79 60-69 0-59 A B C D F	In this class, you will be required to have an independent reading book with you for each English class. The books you choose must be school appropriate and parent approved. If you finish a book or want to change a book, you need to go to the library during ROAR. Hoopla (Greenville Public Library) and Sora are great online sources for both eBooks and audiobooks

Tentative Course Outline

Launch Unit Suggested Pacing: 5 days	Thematic unit based on HMH <i>Into Literature</i> textbook
Unit 1: Reality Check Discover Your Voice: 24 days	Thematic unit based on HMH <i>Into Literature</i> textbook
Unit 2: Never Give Up Suggested Pacing: 23 days	Thematic unit based on HMH <i>Into Literature</i> textbook
Unit 3: Finding Courage Suggested Pacing: 33 days	Thematic unit based on HMH <i>Into Literature</i> textbook
Unit 4: Through an Animal's Eyes Suggested Pacing: 28 days	Thematic unit based on HMH <i>Into Literature</i> textbook
Unit 5: Surviving the Unthinkable Suggested Pacing: 25 days	Thematic unit based on HMH <i>Into Literature</i> textbook
Unit 6: Hidden Truths Suggested Pacing: 26 days	Thematic unit based on HMH <i>Into Literature</i> textbook

Book List

This year we will be reading and learning from the following novel in our 6th grade ELA Studies classes. In addition we will refer to excerpts from multiple books from our school library or recommended readings from our ELA textbook for practice and understanding.

1. *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis

[District Booklist Link](#)
[BRMS 6th Grade Text List](#)