



2025-2026 Course Expectations

Mrs. Christmas

ELA 06

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Knudsonms.org

Course Description

This one-year course provides instruction in the English Language Arts strands identified by the Common Core State Standards as reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. This course is designed to build knowledge and critical thinking skills through close reading of texts; writing to support claims, to clarify ideas, and/or to develop ideas; and a range of collaborative discussions. Instructional practices incorporate integration of diversity awareness including appreciation of all cultures and their important contributions to society. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course.

Course Goals

1. To read and study a wide variety of text (informational, fiction and nonfiction, expository) independently and proficiently. [RL.6.1-7, 9-10; RI.6.1-10]
2. To respond, and/or explain, in writing or speaking with a focus on: how an author conveys the theme or central idea of a text through structure and details, how an author develops point of view in text, and how an author develops an argument. [RL.6.5; RI.6.5; W.6.1-8; SL.6.3; L.6.1]
3. To demonstrate a command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. [W.6.4-5; SL.6.6; L.6.1-3]
4. To generate and support ideas by conducting short research projects and gathering relevant information from multiple print and digital sources to use when writing or speaking. [RL.6.1; RI.6.1; W.6.7-9; SL.6.1]
5. To combine information from multiple sources to support analysis of literary and informational text to produce clear and coherent writing appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. [RL.6.1; RI.6.1; W.6.1-2, 4, 8-9; SL.6.1a, 2-4, 6; L.6.1-3, 6]



6. To explore the elements of text, selected from a range of sixth grade literary and informational text exemplars to understand how authors use structure, word choice, details, and elaboration to convey the theme, central idea, or purpose of a text. [RL.6.1-6; RI.6.1-6; W.6.1-2; SL.6.4; L.6.4-6]
7. To learn the purposes and characteristics of the major genres of text (e.g., prose, poetry, drama, literary nonfiction). [RL.6.1-7, 9-10; RI.6.1-10; W.6.1-3]
8. To apply the general strategies of organization, and revision to produce writing (e.g., argument, expository, narration) appropriate to task, purpose, and audience whether over time or under a tight deadline. [W.6.1-10]

I. Course Content and Sequence

Unit 2: Never Give Up: *Focus on Reading Skills and Informational/Expository Writing*

Unit 3: Finding Courage: *Focus on Reading Skills and Narrative Writing*

Unit 4: Through Animal's Eyes: *Focus on Reading Skills and Argumentative Writing*

Unit 5: Surviving the Unthinkable: *Focus on Reading Skills and aforementioned modes of Writing*

II. Course Activities

In addition to the lessons and activities planned in the *Into Literature* text, students will participate in the following:

- Students are expected to login to Canvas everyday to check and submit their coursework.
- IXL- (see information on the next page)
- Daily reading outside of class is to be expected.



Learn with IXL at home!



We're using IXL to support our curriculum this year, and your child has access to this online program at home. IXL is a learning platform that lets students practice skills that they're learning and guides them to material that will help them grow the most.

With thousands of skills that match what we're covering in class, as well as insights into student progress, IXL is a great resource to help your child excel.

A graphic with a light blue background showcasing various IXL features. It includes icons for a pencil, papers, a globe, a progress-tracking report, a target, a certificate, and mobile devices. Each feature is highlighted with a blue banner.

- Unlimited practice in 17,000 skills**
- Progress-tracking reports**
- Personalized skill recommendations**
- Certificates and awards**

IXL MOBILE APPS
Available for iPad and iPhone, Android Tablets, and Kindle Fire!

III. Areas of Assessment

- Formative assignments (classwork and other practice tasks) = 20% of the quarter grade. Summative assignments (quizzes, tests, performance tasks, major projects) = 80% of the quarter grade.
- In class assessments may be done again only after all the formative assignments have been completed for that assessment.
- Semester Grade breakdown:
 - Quarter grade= 50%
 - Quarter grade= 50%Quarter 1 = 50 %
+ Quarter 2 = 50%
Semester Grade 100%



IV. Late Work Policy

Missing formative assignments are due before a quiz or test on the skills taught prior to the assessment. Make up or re-take quizzes may be scheduled with the teacher after all formative work for that quiz is turned in. No late or make-up work will be accepted one week prior to the end of the semester.

It is the expectation of K. O. Knudson Middle School that all students complete and turn in their work in a timely manner. However, in the event a student has a missing assignment, s/he will have the opportunity to complete the assignment before the conclusion of that unit of instruction. Missing work shall be marked as “Missing” and shall receive a grade of 50 percent. Weekly notifications will be sent home if there is missing work.

No points will be deducted for late work.

“T” will be used in Infinite Campus to indicate late work that has been turned in but not graded.

School Wide Grading policy:

- Regular “missing” or “grades” reports will be emailed home.
- Chronic late submissions = SSC
- If a student wants to retake a summative assessment, they must request it within 5 days of when the grade was posted and complete a reflection form.
- All formative missing assignments must be turned in before a reassessment will be allowed.

V. Test retake policy

Students may retake a test, after they have completed **all** formative assignments pertaining to the standards being assessed.



VI. Explanation of Grades

Grading Scale		
Grade	Percentage	Explanation
A	100% - 90%	Exceeds standards
B	89% - 80%	Meets standards
C	79% - 70%	Partially meets standards
D	69% - 60%	Minimally meets standards
F	50% - 59%	Does not meet standards
Min F	50%	Does not meet standards; "earned" percentages < 50%
NS	50%	Not Submitted; Insufficient Evidence

*Parents and students can monitor their academic progress by accessing Infinite Campus online at <http://knudsonms.org>.

VII. Course Materials

K.O. Knudson Academy of the Arts Student Supply List:

- Device: Chromebook or computer with camera
- Earbuds with wires
- Loose-leaf Paper
- Pens/Pencils/highlighters (three different colors)
- Composition Notebook

Attention Students: Please no sharing of supplies. Be sure you come prepared with something to write with.



VIII. Behavioral Expectations

- Students are expected to show their Cougar PRIDE – Positive Choices, Respect, Integrity, Determination and Effort.
- Punctuality, Preparedness and Participation are daily expectations for student success. (see Teacher’s specific expectations for virtual classroom)
- Students must follow all school-wide rules and expectations as they are strictly followed in class (virtual or in person).
- Students will earn classroom and school-wide incentives (KO “HERO PRIDE” points) for positive behaviors.
- Please review a detailed description of the class rules and procedures by clicking [HERE](#).

Personal Electronic Devices:

Phone Pouch Implementation

Students in middle and high school will place their phones in non-locking, signal-blocking pouches that will prevent cell phones and other devices from sending or receiving signals while inside the pouch.



Attendance: Missing School = Missing Out.

→ Daily attendance is expected. Any day a child misses means they have missed instruction. All work missed is expected to be done, either in Canvas or when they return. → Please try to schedule appointments and vacations around normal school days off. → This is the academic calendar for the district.

→ Progressive Discipline Policy for Tardiness from the SSC.

- ◆ **1st Tardy:** Detention/Parent Notification
- ◆ **2nd Tardy:** Detention/Parent Notification
- ◆ **3rd Tardy:** Parent Notification/In-House Suspension
- ◆ **4th Tardy:** Required Parent Conference (non-removal)/Progressive Tardy Plan
- ◆ **5th Tardy:** Required Parent Conference (RPC)/Student enrolled in Truancy
Diversion/Revised Progressive Tardy Plan

IX. Citizenship/Behavior Expectations and Grade

K.O. KNUDSON MIDDLE SCHOOL CITIZENSHIP RUBRIC

	Outstanding	Satisfactory	Needs Improvement	Unsatisfactory
Timeliness	Consistently on time (0-1 tardy)	Usually on time (2-3 tardies)	Inconsistently on time to class (4-5 tardies)	Consistently late to class (6 or more tardies)
Preparedness	Consistently brings all necessary materials and is consistently prepared (Chromebook not charged 0-1 times)	Usually brings all necessary materials and is usually prepared (Chromebook not charged 2-3 times)	Inconsistently brings necessary materials and is inconsistently prepared (Chromebook not charged 4-5 times)	Consistently unprepared regularly does not bring necessary materials to class.
Effort	Consistently takes initiative and participates actively in learning	Usually takes initiative and participates actively in learning	Sometimes participates actively in learning	Has to be directed to get started
Participation	Consistently participates by asking questions or contributing to the lesson	Usually on task, listens and follows directions with respect	Inconsistently on task, listens and follows directions. Needs consistent reminding.	Frequently distracted and distracts others in class
On -task	Consistently on task, listens and follows directions with respect	Usually treats teachers and classmates in a respectful and caring way. May need a reminder	Inconsistently treats teachers and classmates in a respectful and caring way. May need a Reminder	Treats teachers or classmates in a negative way through tone of voice or with put-downs or refusals
Respect	Consistently shows respect for self or others	Usually shows respect for self or others	Inconsistently shows respect for self or others	Frequently causes problems for self or others



*PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM BELOW AFTER YOU'VE READ THE COURSE EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR ELA 06 CLASS. *A COPY OF THIS SIGNATURE PAGE WILL BE PROVIDED IN CLASS.*

2025-2026 ELA 06 COURSE EXPECTATIONS

***Please sign and return this document to Mrs. Christmas.**

Student's Name (Please Print): _____

Student ID Number: _____

Student:

- ☐ I have read and understand the course expectations provided for this course.
- ☐ I have read and understand the school-wide policies as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Signature of Student Date

Parent/Guardian:

- ☐ I have read and understand the course expectations provided for this course.
- ☐ I have read and understand the school-wide policies as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Parent or Guardian Signature Date

