

Close Reading Syllabus

2014-2015

Teacher Information

Teacher

Erin Kurtz

Email

ekurtz@sthelenaunified.org

Course Duration

Trimester

General Information

Description

Making a successful academic adjustment to the reading and writing demands of middle school can be a challenging task. The purpose of the Close Reading class as a part of the 6th Grade wheel is to assist students in acquiring the necessary skills and habits they need, particularly in the area of reading and analyzing informational text, to enjoy academic success in their middle school years and beyond.

Expectations and Goals

1. Students will understand the concept of textual analysis: breaking down the structures of informational text in order to understand its meaning;
2. Students will practice highlighting, underlining, and identifying key vocabulary in expository text;
3. Students will practice making annotations while reading informational text;
4. Students will learn to make connections between and among central ideas and examples in informational text;
5. Students will practice answering focused questions about informational text;
6. Students will write clear, logical responses to informational text based on the knowledge they acquired while doing a close reading of the text.

Course Materials

- Various articles of the informational kind, provided by the teacher.
- ChromeBook, fully charged and ready for a productive work period.

Additional Information and Resources

This class is graded in the same manner as core academic classes, using the standard A-F grading scale. Excessive absences will negatively impact a student's ability to pass this course.

Expert Hour Syllabus

2014-2015

Teacher Information

Teacher

Robert Grace

Email

rgrace@sthelenaunified.org

Course Duration

Trimester

General Information

Description

Expert Hour is a course designed to build students' natural inquiry skills utilizing Close Reading Strategies, Depth of Knowledge Levels of questioning, and Cornell Notes. Students will orally present to their classmates on their research findings.

Expectations and Goals

- Become expert inquirers
- Strengthen close reading skills
- Develop deeper levels of questions
- Become proficient at utilizing Cornell Notes
- Become confident public speakers

Course Materials

- Chrome Books
- SHUSD/RLS approved website sources
- NCOE links to resources

Optional Materials

Ted Talk videos

Additional Information and Resources

Students will also be able to interact with parents and other adults on topics of interest.

Digital Literacy Syllabus

2014-2015

Teacher Information

Teacher

Ngu Pham

Email

npham@sthelenaunified.org

Course Duration

Trimester

General Information

Description

6th grade students will learn and use Google Apps for education, explore digital citizenship, learn digital researching tools, and be introduced to simple programming concepts.

Expectations and Goals

- Students will use Google Form, Spreadsheet, Document, Presentation, Drawing, Maps, and Sites through a comprehensive project.
- Students will explore and discuss the dos and don'ts of the internet.
- Students will conduct online research using various tools and search tips.
- Students will learn basic programming concepts using "Scratch".

Course Materials

Chromebooks

AVID 7 (Advancement Via Individual Determination) Syllabus 2014-2015

Teacher Information

Name	Email	Course Duration
Dana Simon	dsimon@sthelenaunified.org	Year-long

General Information

Description

To prepare all students for college readiness and success in a global society, this course will challenge students to build their reading, writing, organization, and study skills, as well as teach them about the college environment.

Expectations and Goals

- Keep an organized binder, planner, journals, and backpack.
- Take Cornell Notes in all classes, interact with the notes, and have them checked weekly in class.
- Participate in twice weekly tutorial study groups to clarify points of confusion in any of students' core classes.
- Maintain grades of C or better in all classes.
- Take highest level coursework available to you.
- Complete career and college research and exploration.
- Be an active, participating part of the AVID family, supporting each other in our common goal of success in rigorous coursework.

Course Materials

- Three-inch Binder, dividers, binder paper, pens, pencils,
- Chromebook
- Tutorial Request Forms
- Cornell Notes organizational chart
- Cornell Notes, learning logs, and journals from all core courses

Additional Information and Resources

<http://tinyurl.com/RLSAVID>

STEM Syllabus

2014-2015

Teacher Information

Name

Email

Course Duration

Mrs. Hellwig

lhellwig@sthelenaunified.org

Trimester

General Information

Description

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)

Students will use all of the four disciplines that make up STEM in Project Based Learning.

Expectations and Goals

Students will be learning to be a:

- Problem Solver- Use STEM to solve problems that may be small and large and connected to one or four of the disciplines
- Logical Thinker- learn how to create and perform experiments that are related to STEM
- Inventor- Create models and experiments that include STEM
- Technology Literate- Use technology to share results from experiments and models
- Communicator- Use various ways to communicate results from experiments in small/large groups and through using technology

Course Materials

- Notebook

Additional Information and Resources

Academic Technology Syllabus

2014-2015

Teacher Information

Teacher

Todd Mills

Email

tmills@sthelenaunified.org

Course Duration

Trimester

General Information

Description

This class is designed to help students learn more efficient uses of technology so that they may become better students.

Expectations and Goals

- Students will learn how to create an organizational system for computer files and documents
- Students will increase their typing speed
- Student will learn and use computer shortcuts to become more efficient users
- Students will understand the *design cycle* as a base for any research assignments
- Students will become familiar with the function and capabilities of spreadsheets

AVID 8 (Advancement Via Individual Determination) Syllabus 2014-2015

Teacher Information

Name	Email	Course Duration
Jennifer Marinace	jmarinace@sthelenaunified.org	Year-long

General Information

Description

To prepare all students for college readiness and success in a global society, this course will challenge students to build their reading, writing, organization, and study skills, as well as teach them about the college environment.

Expectations and Goals

- Keep an organized binder, planner, journals, and backpack.
- Take Cornell Notes in all classes, interact with the notes, and have them checked weekly in class.
- Participate in twice weekly tutorial study groups to clarify points of confusion in any of students' core classes.
- Maintain grades of C or better in all classes.
- Take highest level coursework available to you.
- Complete career and college research and exploration.
- Be an active, participating part of the AVID family, supporting each other in our common goal of success in rigorous coursework.

Course Materials

- Three-inch Binder, dividers, binder paper, pens, pencils,
- Chromebook
- Tutorial Request Forms
- Cornell Notes organizational chart
- Cornell Notes, learning logs, and journals from all core courses

Additional Information and Resources

<http://tinyurl.com/RLSAVID>

Current Events Syllabus

2014-2015

Teacher Information

	Email	Course Duration
Messmer	tmessmer@sthelenaunified.org	trimester

General Information

Description: This class provides an opportunity for students to explore what is happening in the world today through a variety of news sources.

Expectations and Goals

Using bullets, outline what students will do and/or learn in this course.

- Students will understand how a newspaper is assembled by the journalists and the editors.
- Students will find stories that interest them from many different sources.
- Students will become more sensitive to bias in news reporting.
- Students will find a story, follow it for a few weeks, and then create a Google Presentation using many sources. They must insert video, have images on each page and understand that a presentation needs to be very selective with their text.
- Students must have a script to use when they present their project.
- Students will present their project to the whole class.
- Students will need to learn how to be critical listeners and questioners.

Chromebooks

New York Times (paper version)

Social and Environmental Education

2014-2015

Teacher Information

Teacher

Mr. McClain

Email

mmclain@sthelenaunified.org

Course Duration

Trimester

General Information

Description

Students will explore those qualities which will help them find personal success as well as effectively interact with others in their local and global community. Through the class students will discover how their choices affect their lives, the lives of others and the environment.

Expectations and Goals

- Analyze information from texts, multimedia sources, and guest presentations
- Reflect and write about the analysis
- Communicate thoughts, findings, and ideas about each area of study
- Participate daily

Course Materials

- The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens

Learning Center Syllabus

2014-2015

Teacher Information

	Email	Course Duration
Mrs. Prichett	mprichett@sthelenaunified.org	Year-long

General Information

Description: 6th, 7th and 8th grade students are placed in a Learning Center to help provide support for the curriculum that students encounter in their general education courses. This course also gives students more individualized instruction on strategies that will help them be more successful throughout the school environment

Expectations and Goals

Using bullets, outline what students will do and/or learn in this course (5-8 bullets please).

- Students are expected to come to class prepared
- Students need to use their time wisely
- Students will receive help with homework that is a part of their general education classes while learning strategies that will help them become more independent in their homework completion
- Students will learn organizational strategies
- Students will learn self-advocacy techniques
- Students will learn to be effective test takers

Course Materials

- Resources from Core Classes

Reading 6 Syllabus

2014-2015

Teacher Information

Teacher

Prichett

Email

mprichett@sthelenaunified.org

Course Duration

Year-long

General Information

Description: Reading is a reading intervention based on the Read180 program.

Expectations and Goal: Students will improve

- Reading comprehension
- Reading fluency
- Vocabulary
- Organization of writing
- Grammar
- Spelling

Course Materials

- Read180 Rbook or Flex Book
- Read180 Computer Program

Additional Information and Resources

<http://read180.scholastic.com>

Math180 Syllabus

2014-2015

Teacher Information

Allenson
Carnes
Gouveia

jallenson@sthelenaunified.org
dcarnes@sthelenaunified.org
mgouveia@sthelenaunified.org

Year-long*

*if significant growth is shown, students can exit course at the trimester

General Information

Description

The Math 180 program builds students' confidence and competence in mathematics through an adaptive computer program and teacher instruction.

Expectations and Goals

Using bullets, outline what students will do and/or learn in this course (5-8 bullets please).

- Multiplication facts
- Division with 10s
- Fraction Operations
- Decimal Operations
- Positive and Negative Integers

Course Materials

- Math180 mSpace books
- ChromeBook or other computer for online component

PBL-Shark Tank Timeline and Requirements

The class PBL-Shark Tank is a class that combines Academic Technology and STEM in a fun and challenging format based on the TV show “Shark Tank”.. In this class you will use the knowledge that you have learned in your previous classes to design, develop and present an original invention or idea.

A task will be give each week that has be completed by the end of the week for a grade. You will find a week by week layout of the trimester below.

What	How	When (week ends on...)
<p>Research</p> <p>1. Come up with an idea for a product and do research to see if anyone has created it already</p>	<p>Use the internet to do the research</p> <p>Introduce patents and look online for patents http://www.uspto.gov/patents/process/search/index.jspts</p>	<p>Week 1(March 13) M: Shark Tank video... introduce concept T: Go-Pro video...continue brainstorming about a problem that you can solve W: Shark Tank Video #2... start research Th: introduce patent idea... continue brainstorming/ research/ and patent research F: Share ideas, group assignments if possible, continue research... Ideas due on MONDAY</p>
<p>Product</p>	<p>1. Draw and label a diagram of your product</p>	<p>1. week 2(March 20)</p>

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a sketch of your product 2. Decide on the materials that you will use 3. Find where you can purchase your products 4. Make your product/item 5. Calculate the cost for one product 6. Calculate the cost to make 100 items 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Create a list of all of the materials (and possible substitute materials) needed 3. Make a list of the providers for your materials (ex. HomeDepot) 4. Write step by step procedures to create your product a. make the item <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Figure out the dimensions, find the cost of the materials for those dimensions 2. Use the cost of 1 and multiply by 100... but this should <u>not</u> be the cost of 100... research bulk purchases and cost savings 	<p>2. week 2(March 20)</p> <p>3. week 3(March 27)</p> <p>4. week 3 / 4 (April 3) Spring Break starts April 3... product due by April 13... get it done <u>before</u> Spring Break!</p> <p>5. week 5 (April 17)</p> <p>6. week 5 (April 17)</p>
<p>Advertising</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learn how to create an advertisement- Who is your audience 2. Create a poster Ad 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Watch a video or PowerPoint to learn what goes into creating an Ad 2. Use an 8 1/2 x 14 piece of paper/color 	<p>week 6 / 7(April 24 & May 1)</p>

3. Create a Youtube infomercial or a website		
Investment 1. Money needed for start up 2. % investment needed		week 8 (May 8)