**Grade 8 ELA Syllabus**

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| **Instructor**  Mrs. Winterhalter  **Phone**  716-365-6600  extension 2266  **Email**  wwinterhalter@alcsny.org  **Class Location**  Room 266  **Office Hours**  By appointment | **Course Overview**  This course is a varied volume of writing, reading, and speaking experiences designed to create proficiency with 8th grade learning standards, and to prepare for high school readiness.  Major reading units will include historical fiction and a Shakespearean play, as well as poetry, short stories, and diverse informational/fictional texts. Major writing units will include a proper 5 paragraph essay and an argument essay, text-based quick writes, a descriptive narrative, and other written classwork. All writing will follow MLA style. Students can expect frequent public speaking and a strong emphasis on grammar and standard English.  **Class Expectations**  Students are expected to maintain acceptable, prosocial behaviors in class. Homework assignments, classwork, and projects are expected to be submitted by the deadline. Students will have the responsibility of discussing alternate arrangements with Mrs. Winterhalter prior to the deadline, if necessary. Students are responsible for all classwork and/or assignments missed during absence.  **Conduct**  Students will be expected to engage in different types of collaborative discussions on eighth-grade topic, texts, and issues; they will do so in a respectful manner. Absolutely no verbal or written dialogue that is derogatory, insulting, belittling, or otherwise abusive will be tolerated.  **Course Materials**  Students are required to have a binder with 5 dividers, a marble composition notebook, and notecards. Students will be asked to bring in magazines (that will be destroyed) for a rhetoric unit.  Additional supplies required for project work will be provided. |
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