

6th Grade Humanities - Course Syllabus 2007-2008

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Overview

Amana Academy follows the Georgia Performance Standards Curriculum. The 6th Grade Humanities Course includes the direct teaching of reading and writing skills integrated with social studies content. The sixth grade year includes the study of major world regions including Europe, Canada, Latin America (Central, Caribbean Islands & South), and Oceania (Australia, New Zealand & Pacific Islands). The content is organized into four domains of study including the history, geography, civics and economics of each particular region. Students in the 6th Grade Humanities Course will experience full integration of literature, research, creative and informative writing while working collaboratively in an Expeditionary Learning setting. Please view the following websites. They serve as frameworks for how we organize our curriculum. The state has units organized by region; we will focus on concepts (History of various regions, etc).
<http://www.georgiastandards.org/socialstudiesframework.aspx>
<http://www.georgiastandards.org/elaframework.aspx>

Policies

The Amana Academy Middle School adheres to the policies and procedures set forth by the Charter, Parent, Student and Staff Handbooks, and Middle School and Administrative guidelines. Students are expected to arrive to class on time, prepared and ready to learn. Students are expected to show responsibility for their learning, the learning of others, and to demonstrate civic and environmental stewardship at all times. Positive Behavior Supports are explicitly modeled, taught and reviewed. Supporting student success includes positive reinforcement, redirection, reminders, notes, emails, and/or phone calls to parents. Consequences for disruptive or destructive behaviors include counseling, reconciliation, communication, and service.

Communication

Amana is environmentally friendly. Our goal at Amana is to become “paperless.” Therefore, making yourself available via email is THE BEST way to stay in touch. All “one-way” communications are sent electronically, this includes are weekly Middle School newsletter. Only when a response from a parent is required will a return page for a note and/or signature be used. We highly encourage the use of email to conserve paper.

Health ... set your child up to be successful stewards
The importance of your child’s health cannot be understated. Students who bring their lunch should have a healthy, waste-free lunch. Students are permitted to bring a water bottle for the classroom. Only bottles with a watertight cap are permitted (no twist off please – think straw or pop open lid styles). Students should also plan on bringing a healthy, easily accessible snack (think granola bar, fruit, pretzels, etc – not yogurt or dips).

Materials

Amana is a community-based school. We share materials in the classroom from the community supply. Most materials are collected then used when necessary. Students are

expected to be prepared every day and demonstrate respect for their materials, the belongings of others, and the property of the school.

Students will need the following on a regular basis:

Independent reading book	Assigned materials
Writing notebook (WNB)	Required forms
Organization binder	Due assignments
Subject folders	Agenda/Homework record
Writing tools	Friday Folder

Grading

Amana Academy follows Fulton County percentage grading scale:

60-69% F 70-79% C 80-89% B 90-100% A

6th Grade Humanities reports grades on three subjects: Reading, English/Language Arts, and Social Studies. The following grading elements comprise the point-percentage grade that transfers to a letter grade.

Reading/ELA	Social Studies
<u>Reading</u> 40% Reading skills (w/Semester Exam) 40% Reading responses (book clubs) 10% Reading homework 10% Participation/Reflection <u>Writing</u> 40% Writing skills (conventions, grammar, mechanics, vocabulary. & spelling, semester exam) 40% Writing products (process, published works, creative writing) 10% Writing homework 10% Participation/Reflection	<u>50% Major Products & Assessments</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects • Papers • Presentations • Tests/Quizzes – Semester Exam <u>30% Skills</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geography • Research 10% Participation/Reflection 10% Homework (Spring Semester -Current Events)

Middle School adheres to the Amana Academy Grading Guidelines regarding make up work. Students have one day for each day of an excused absence to be in compliance with make up assignments. Late assignments will be accepted with a 10-point deduction, not to exceed 3 days. Failure to turn in an assignment in a timely manner will result in a grade of 60%. Unusual circumstances such as a broken arm may necessitate extended time. Students must be present for a minimum of more than 50% of the grading period to earn a letter grade; otherwise no grade (NG) will be assigned.