| ***Course Description:*** | | The purpose of this course is to expose students to a variety of fundamental learning opportunities that focus on the development of critical thinking strategies, grammar enhancement, communication building, reading proficiency, writing analysis, and oral presentation skills. This course satisfies the state requirement for an elective credit. |  | |
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| ***Course Objectives:*** | | Students will improve reading and writing skills, develop an understanding of various grammar concepts, and increase vocabulary acquisition, while completing and understanding skills related to the current Alabama College and Career Readiness standards. Critical thinking, research, and communication skills will be emphasized. |  | |
| ***Classroom Expectations:*** | | You are expected to conduct yourself in a respectful and productive manner. In addition to all the rules and expectations listed in the student handbook, I expect you to have a positive attitude, treat others with respect, practice self-discipline, and demonstrate responsibility. If these conditions are not met, you can expect one-on-one meetings with me, parent/instructor conferencing, and administrative action, if necessary.  **Concerning the use of cell phones and other electronic devices:**  Devices should be on silent and kept in your purse, backpack, or pocket during class unless otherwise instructed. You may not place it on your desk. Parents, guardians, and other family members should call the front office in case of emergency.  If you violate this rule, you can expect the following consequences:   * *First offense* – The phone or device will be placed in a phone chart at the front of the room. You may pick it up at the end of class. * *Second offense* – The phone or device will again be placed in a phone chart at the front of the room until the end of class and a parent/guardian will be notified. * *Third offense* – This is defiance and I will notify an administrator. |  | |
| ***Grading Policy:*** | | Major assessments will count 70 percent of your grade. Homework and classwork will account for 30 percent of your grade. Grades will be updated weekly in PowerSchools. Each grading period will consist of nine weeks. |  | |
|  | |  |  | |
| ***Make-up Work Policy:*** | | Make-up tests will **only** be given to a student who has an **excused absence**. **The student must make arrangements with the teacher to take a make-up test.** **Tests may be taken during Patriot Path with prior arrangement from each teacher.**  A student only has two chances (the next two Patriot Paths after the absence) to make up a test. All make-up tests will be administered in the designated classroom on the Patriot Path session roster.  Homework/Classwork: Students who are absent for **excused reasons** will be permitted to make up missed work. **It is the student’s responsibility to get their work assignments the day upon return to school and complete the assignments according to a time frame determined by the teacher within two weeks of the date of the last absence**. Grades of zero will be assigned for assignments missed because of unexcused absences. |  | |
| ***Textbook and Other***  ***Required Reading:*** | | * *Texts provided by the teacher* * *Read180 Program* |  | |
|  | |  |  | |
| ***Materials and***  ***Supplies Needed:***  ***Laptops***  ***Turnitin Notice***  ***Accommodations*** | | * Paper * Pencils * Composition notebook * binder   Concerning laptop utilization: 1.Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities. 2. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers. 3. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops. 4. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher.  The majority of writing assignments in this course will be submitted to Turnitin via the Schoology learning platform. Turnitin generates a report on the originality of student writing by comparing it with a database of periodicals, books, online content, student papers, and other published work. This program will help students discern when they are using sources fairly, citing properly, and paraphrasing effectively - skills essential to all academic work.  Students will have the opportunity to review their Turnitin originality report and will have the opportunity to make revisions before submitting their work for grading. Once their work is submitted, teachers have the opportunity to view the student/s originality report and grade accordingly.  Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from students and parents. |  | |
| **18-Week Plan** | | | | |
| **Week 1** | School Environment: people, programs and procedures, websites | | | |
| **Week 2** | My favorite things & SeeSaw speaking & listening activities | | | |
| **Week 3** | Neighborhood Resources, Local Customs & Area Attractions research and presentation | | | |
| **Week 4** | Culture Project and presentation | | | |
| **Week 5** | Family Tree and Celebrations and create a list of questions and possible responses for the family and friends interview. Then record the interview. | | | |
| **Week 6** | Directions: Neighborhood, Academic Vocabulary, City, School  Write an article for the newspaper about your city | | | |
| **Week 7** | Letter to future self  punctuation practice | | | |
| **Week 8** | Job Occupations and design a resume of job | | | |
| **Week 9** | Read about Famous American Immigrants then write a narrative about their journey of an immigrant to the United States | | | |
| **Week 10** | Compare and contrast homes | | | |
| **Week 11** | Restaurants, shopping and money | | | |
| **Week 12** | Huntsville City, Madison History and ghost stories | | | |
| **Week 13** | The World Around Me, news feature and historical places | | | |
| **Week 14** | Research project | | | |
| **Week 15** | Environmental concerns | | | |
| **Week 16** | Winter traditional celebrations | | | |
| **Week 17** | Writing Activity | | | |
| **Week 18** | **Review and Final Exam** | | | |
|  |  | | | |

**\*This is a tentative plan and may change at the discretion of the teacher.**

**Please sign below to acknowledge that you have received, read, and understood the syllabus.**

**Student name**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/guardian name**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/guardian, please provide two ways for me to contact you (email address, phone numbers):**

Parent/guardian Email:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Phone number:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_