



Tohoku International School

Secondary School Course Syllabus

Course Title: Grade 7-8 English	Teacher: Mr. Nicholas Schirmer Email: nschirmer@tisweb.net
Grade Level(s): Grade 7-8	Time Frame: 37 weeks
Brief Course Description: Students in Grade 7-8 English will study a variety of literature genres, different forms of writing, as well as public speaking and presentation skills.	
Course Philosophy: As a language, English is the medium of Tohoku International School. All of our courses use English to teach knowledge and skills. As a course, English is intended to help students learn how to better use and apply English to the daily and academic tasks of reading, writing and speaking. As a teacher, I believe that a student who truly exemplifies the 5 TIS stars should be: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowledgeable about the world through what they read and hear• Open-minded to using and applying language in new ways• A clear communicator in all forms written and spoken• Responsible in their use of appropriate English• A risk-taker in sharing their ideas and knowledge in public settings	
Course Objectives: By the end of this course students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• independently write narrative, expository and persuasive pieces of writing with correct form, expressive details, and appropriate usage of English.• read and discuss the elements of literature and use their understanding of the literature to expand their vocabulary.• prepare themselves for speeches and presentation and then be able to speak in front others with confidence.• apply the writing process to their work in order to edit, revise and demonstrate growth.	
Assessments: <u>Reading – 30%</u> Reading is essential to learning! Reading activities will include independent reading, book projects, and vocabulary practice. <u>Writing – 30%</u> Students are expected to be able to write across a wide variety of genres. Writing projects are graded using 6 Trait Writing Rubrics. Other writing tasks include research and grammar activities. <u>Speaking – 30%</u> Confidence speaking in a variety of situations is critical for success in school and life. Students will be given a variety of opportunities to give short speeches, presentations and share before their classmates to help them gain skill in speaking. <u>Learning Skills – 10%</u> Attendance, organization, homework completion and the ability to take initiative and work independently and in groups all play a role in student success and are important for achieving course expectations.	

Tohoku International School:

A community of learners preparing for life in an evolving global society

Grade 7-8 English (cont'd)

Course Specific Materials Required

- A4 Notebook with writing paper
- Silent reading book

Additional Notes:

2018-2019 Units of Study

Reading

Mysteries
Group Novel Study (Literature Circles)
Realistic/Science Fiction

Writing

Short Stories
Narrative writing
Report Writing