



7th Grade Core (7B)
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I. Introduction

Welcome to 7th grade Core! My name is Mr. Carpenter and I am excited to be your teacher this year! In Core, we will be studying English, history, and Bible. We will explore many different ideas and attitudes through a variety of texts. We will evaluate what we have read and apply it to our own lives. Overall, we will become better readers and better writers.

II. Expectations

My Expectations of You, My Students:

- I expect kindness and respect to other students, to yourselves, to the classroom, to teachers, to other adults, and to God.
- I expect you to come prepared for class each day, with all materials ready, all reading assignments completed, and all questions answered.
- I expect you to listen respectfully to others while they are speaking.
- I expect you to turn in work you can be proud of.
- I expect honesty.

What You Can Expect From Mr. Carpenter:

- I will show you the respect and kindness you deserve as a child of God.
- I will come prepared to teach you every day.
- I will create a safe environment for you to share your thoughts and feelings.
- I will make sure there is a sound reason for every decision I make as your teacher.
- I will be honest.

As a Christian, I understand that no one is perfect. I also understand that no one will be able to meet all of the classroom expectations. This is not an excuse for laziness or bad behavior, but instead a call for us to work together in order to improve ourselves and work toward our goals.

III. Grading

English:

40% - Essays (Short writes, Story Starters, comprehensive essays)

20% - Grammar (Various activities and quizzes/test about the structure of the English language)

20% - Vocabulary (Weekly Roots assignments)

15% - Literature (Any activities/assignments relating to short stories, poems, or novels we read)

5% - Accelerated Reader (Independent Reading Program. 100 points total = 25 per quarter)

History:

40% - Quizzes and Tests (Quizzes and Test over the various History units/chapters)

40% - Notes (Daily note check over the previous night's homework, in-class)

20% - Projects (Activities/assignments relating to the chapters – skits, essays, posters, group work, etc.)

Bible:

60% - Memory Verse Quizzes (Weekly, students recite the week's memory verse on paper, which will be graded on accuracy)

25% - Character Quest (assignments/activities based on the Character Quest Curriculum).

15% - Participation (based on behavior and notes during our Wednesday chapel sessions).

V. Areas of Study**English**

Literature – Most of the texts we study in English will be from the McDougal Littell Literature anthology (provided by the school). The texts which come from the anthology include fiction and non-fiction selections, as well as poetry. We will also be reading the following novels/plays:

- *The Samurai's Tale* by Erik Christian Haugaard (ISBN 0618615121)
 - *The Samurai's Tale* may be purchased through MBS Direct, at <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/chinesechristian.htm>
- *The Merchant of Venice* (Abridged) by William Shakespeare (this will be provided by the school)

Writing – We will be studying the following forms of writing, which include but are not limited to the following areas:

- Descriptive
- Creative
- Response to Literature
- Research
- Persuasive
- Compare and contrast

Vocabulary – Weekly Latin/Greek roots will help students in science, as well as help prepare them for high school and the SATs. Other vocabulary words will be chosen from time to time, such as from our annual spelling bee.

Grammar – We will be studying many areas of English grammar, which will include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

- Nouns/Pronouns
- Verbs and Verb Tenses
- Modifiers
- Subject-Verb Agreement
- Prepositions/Conjunctions/Interjections
- Compound/Complex Sentences

History/Social Studies

We will be studying the medieval world, which includes but is not limited to the following areas and cultures:

1. Europe (Feudalism, The Renaissance, and the Reformation)
2. The Middle East/Islam
3. China
4. Japan
5. West Africa

6. Civilizations of the Americas

Bible

We will be using the Character Quest curriculum, which guides students through character qualities such as “Love,” “Compassion,” “Patience,” and other traits that will help them to mature into strong, kind hearted young adults.

If you have further questions, you may e-mail me at chriscarpenter@ccs-rams.org. You may also refer to the student handbook for more information about school-wide policies, including dress code, cafeteria procedures, etc.

Also, this class will require the use of a computer and printer. If you do not have immediate access to either, please contact me. Assignments will not be excused from being late if there are printer problems (students can always print/type at school with a USB drive or internet connection), so make sure to have a backup plan.

Students, sign below to verify your understanding of the syllabus. Parents/Guardians, please sign when you have looked through and discussed the syllabus with your child. Return to me by **Monday, August 23rd**.

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Supplies Checklist [Please have these by the first day of class]:

- WriteSource* English textbook
- The Samurai's Tale* by Erik Christian Haugaard (ISBN 0618615121)
- History Alive!* History textbook
- Character Quest* Bible workbook
 - All of the above texts may be ordered from MBS Direct, located at <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/chinesechristian.htm>
 - Please note it will take about a week for the books to arrive.
- Bible
- [1] Core Three-Ringed Binder (to organize assignments, homework, letters home, etc).
 - **May be used for other classes.**
- [1] History Notebook (200 pages, or two 100 page notebooks)
 - **Should not be used for other classes – History notebooks are often collected.**
- [1] English Notebook (100 page notebook, composition book is fine)
 - **Should not be used for other classes.**
- [1] Bible Notebook (100 pages or more)
- [2-3] #2 Pencils (Mechanical OK)
- [2-3] Ballpoint Pens
- [1] box Colored Pencils/Markers
- [1] Glue Stick
- [1] Scissors (small)
- [1] Highlighter

Mr. Carpenter's Class Procedures

Before Class

- ✓ Bring all required materials to class with you.
- ✓ Come to class on time.
- ✓ Check board for directions.
- ✓ When class begins, listen for instructions and be quiet/respectful.

During Class

- ✓ Please raise your hand if you have a question or a comment.
- ✓ Listen carefully and respectfully to the teacher and other students.
- ✓ If you need to use the restroom, please raise your hand and ask to do so.
- ✓ No cheating!

End of Class

- ✓ Do not pack up your belongings until the teacher has dismissed you.
- ✓ Do not leave the classroom/your seat until the teacher has dismissed you.
- ✓ Make sure you have all materials/homework needed before leaving the classroom.

Absences

- ✓ You are responsible for all work/information covered in class. Ask a classmate or the teacher for any missed assignments.
- ✓ Do not ask during class for missed assignments – ask before or after class.

Late Assignments

- ✓ Late assignments are lowered one letter grade for each day late (A to A-, A- to B+), or one point, whichever is higher (Weekends = one day).
- ✓ Assignments must be finished and ready to turn in at the beginning of class. If you are working on an assignment during class the day it is due, it is late.
- ✓ Excused absences: late work is due the day after you return to school (no penalty).
- ✓ If an assignment is not turned in, students may be sent to Study Hall during lunch. If students come to study hall three times in one week, parents will be notified.