

Dear Families,

Welcome to your seventh grade Humanities class! We are excited about our plans this year, and we look forward to working with you. This year we hope to support our students' development as critical readers and writers through multiple opportunities for them to engage with a variety of texts. By the end of this school year, our students will be prepared to enter eighth grade with the skills they need to be successful, insightful readers and writers.

In this course, we use Project Based Learning, or PBL, to help students to enhance their skills and deepen their knowledge. PBL motivates students to gain knowledge and remember it longer. PBL gives students the chance to apply the skills they learn in school to personally relevant and real-world situations. Your child also learns skills in PBL, such as how to think critically to create effective and innovative solutions, collaborate with peers, and communicate effectively in a variety of forms and settings. These skills will help students succeed in the future, both in school and in today's economy.

Our ELAR TEKS, the foundation of our curriculum, ask students to engage in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and thinking. Additionally, students will have access to a classroom library of grade-appropriate texts to further their engagement as readers and writers. GT Humanities students will engage in a rigorous curriculum that will hone their research and presentation skills and will challenge students in reading and writing.

Here is an overview of the school year:

1st Six Weeks: Analyze the Nature of Humanity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish the routines of Reader's and Writer's Workshop and read a whole-class or book club novel Creative Writing 	2nd Six Weeks: What Blinds People from the Truth? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literary analysis Choice novel and creating a study guide 	3rd Six Weeks: Individuality vs. Conformity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biographical piece Literature and artwork Research
4th Six Weeks: ThinkLaw <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read, write, and analyze like lawyers Response to Correspondence 	5th Six Weeks: Perspectives of Power <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literature and artwork Presentation 	6th Six Weeks: Genius Hour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project proposal, artifact, and presentation on a theme previously studied in the year

We encourage you to speak with your students about what they are reading, writing, and learning in class. Please be sure to review your student's performance via Skyward Access and contact his or her teacher if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to working with you this year!

Respectfully,

EMS ISD 7th Grade GT Humanities ELAR Teachers