

GERMANTOWN HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT # 69

#

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

FOR GRADES K-8

Germantown Hills Administration

7/13/2012

This document was adopted from the Illinois State Board of Education's Prior to Secondary Course Catalog, which were used to align the courses provided at Germantown Hills District 69 with state and national requirements.

Kindergarten

Language Arts (kindergarten) courses engage students in activities to develop their language arts skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking). Course content may emphasize storytelling or reading aloud and evoking a written, oral, or pictorial response. Specific content depends upon state standards for kindergarten.

Writing (kindergarten) courses engage students in activities to develop their writing skills. Course content may emphasize storytelling or personal expression. Specific content depends upon state standards for kindergarten.

Reading (kindergarten) courses engage students in activities to develop their reading skills. Course content may emphasize storytelling or reading aloud and evoking a written, oral, or pictorial response. Specific content depends upon state standards for kindergarten.

Mathematics (kindergarten) courses typically introduce and reinforce basic concepts of mathematics such as counting whole numbers and understanding patterns, time, and money. Specific content depends upon state standards for kindergarten.

Science (kindergarten) courses encourage students to observe and describe properties of organisms, systems, and the environment. Students may raise questions; identify patterns, and record observations. Specific content depends upon state standards for kindergarten.

Social Studies (kindergarten) courses generally provide initial foundations in the social studies disciplines: history, geography, civics and government, and economics. Specific content depends upon state standards for kindergarten.

Music (kindergarten) courses provide developmentally appropriate activities to enable students to create and perform music, listen and respond to musical compositions, and incorporate their musical experiences with other activities and subjects. Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for kindergarten.

Art (kindergarten) courses provide to students developmentally appropriate activities to foster creative expression, communication through artistic endeavor, and appreciation of culture and heritage. Although the art form typically involves visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture, crafts, and the like), students may also explore other forms of art such as dance, music, and theater. Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for kindergarten.

Physical Education (kindergarten) courses emphasize fundamental movement skills, body awareness and control, safety, and the enjoyment of physical activity. Specific content depends upon state standards for kindergarten.

First Grade

Language Arts (grade 1) courses include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These courses may emphasize recognition of and response to various types of text, extension of vocabulary and writing skills, and the connection of language to the expression of ideas. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 1.

Writing (grade 1) courses focus on writing skills and may emphasize recognition and creation of various types of text; extension of vocabulary and writing skills; and the connection of language to the expression of ideas. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 1.

Reading (grade 1) courses focus on reading skills and may emphasize recognition of and response to various types of text; extension of vocabulary; and the connection of language to the expression of ideas. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 1.

Mathematics (grade 1) courses typically help build a conceptual foundation in number, operation, and quantitative reasoning; patterns, relationships, and algebraic thinking; geometry and spatial reasoning; and measurement. These courses often require students to develop their numerical fluency and to make calculation predictions. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 1.

Science (grade 1) courses allow students to identify interactions and patterns in objects and events and to record observations in written or visual form. Typically, students investigate systems of living organisms and the environment. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 1.

Social Studies (grade 1) courses develop foundational skills in the social studies disciplines: history, geography, civics and government, and economics. These disciplines are often taught together and organized around a theme. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 1.

Music (grade 1) courses provide activities to enable students to create and perform music, listen and respond to musical compositions, and incorporate their musical experiences with other activities and subjects. Course content usually involves understanding music as creative expression and communication, developing skill with the voice and/or musical instruments, and establishing the ability to discern and critique. Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 1.

Art (grade 1) courses provide to students activities that foster creative expression, communication through artistic endeavor, and appreciation of culture and heritage. Activities may include those that enable students to refine their technique, increase their artistic vocabulary, and strengthen their critical abilities. Although the art form typically involves visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture, crafts, and the like), students may also explore other forms of art such as dance, music, and theater. Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 1.

Physical Education (grade 1) courses typically emphasize knowledge and skills that lead to health, enjoyment, and social development through physical activity. Course content may include activities that strengthen gross and fine motor skills, body awareness, safety, and the relationship between physical activity and health. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 1.

Second Grade

Language Arts (grade 2) courses include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These courses may build students' skills in independent reading and writing by increasing reading and writing fluency, vocabulary, and recognition of word and language patterns. They may also introduce or reinforce the rules of grammar. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 2.

Writing (grade 2) courses focus on writing skills and may build students' skills in independent writing by increasing writing fluency, vocabulary, and recognition of word and language patterns. They may also introduce or reinforce the rules of grammar and spelling. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 2.

Reading (grade 2) courses focus on reading skills and may build students' skills in independent reading by increasing reading fluency, vocabulary, and recognition of word and language patterns. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 2.

Mathematics (grade 2) courses typically continue to build a conceptual foundation in number, operation, and quantitative reasoning; patterns, relationships, and algebraic thinking; geometry and spatial reasoning; and measurement. These courses often require students to develop their numerical fluency, particularly in addition and subtraction, and to solve problems using those operations as well as estimation. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 2.

Science (grade 2) courses continue to introduce students to basic scientific processes and principles. Course content may include identification of patterns, classification and sequencing, or manipulation of systems to observe interactions between parts and record the effects of change. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 2.

Social Studies (grade 2) courses help students reach greater understanding of the social studies disciplines: history, geography, civics and government, and economics. Courses often offer study of these disciplines in an integrated fashion, through the context of a specific theme or discipline, such as state-based social studies or the history of a people. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 2.

Music (grade 2) courses provide activities to enable students to create and perform music, listen and respond to musical compositions, and to incorporate their musical experiences with other activities and subjects. Course content usually involves understanding music as creative expression and communication, developing skill with the voice and/or musical instruments, and establishing the ability to discern and critique. Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 2.

Art (grade 2) courses provide to students activities that foster creative expression, communication through artistic endeavor, and appreciation of culture and heritage. Activities may include those that enable students to refine their technique, increase their artistic vocabulary, and strengthen their critical abilities. Although the art form typically involves visual arts (drawing,

painting, sculpture, crafts, and the like), students may also explore other forms of art such as dance, music, and theater. Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 2.

Physical Education (grade 2) courses typically emphasize knowledge and skills that lead to health, enjoyment, and social development through physical activity. Course content may include activities that strengthen gross and fine motor skills, body awareness, safety, and the relationship between physical activity and health. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 2.

Third Grade

Language Arts (grade 3) courses include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These courses may emphasize independent reading and writing in a variety of assignments. Some emphasis may also be placed on presentation or oral communication skills. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 3.

Writing (grade 3) courses focus on writing skills and may emphasize independent writing in a variety of assignments. Some emphasis may also be placed on presentation skills. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 3.

Reading (grade 3) courses focus on reading skills and may emphasize independent reading in a variety of assignments. Some emphasis may also be placed on presentation skills. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 3.

Mathematics (grade 3) courses typically emphasize number, operation, and quantitative reasoning; patterns, relationships, and algebraic thinking; geometry and spatial reasoning; and measurement. These courses often require students to improve their numerical fluency, adding multiplication and division to addition and subtraction operations, using whole numbers and parts (quarters, thirds, halves), and estimation. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 3.

Science (grade 3) courses involve observation, measurement, and description of simple systems. Course content may include the scientific process; life and environmental science; and physical, earth, and space science. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 3.

Social Studies (grade 3) courses build on previous knowledge and introduce concepts in the social studies disciplines: history, geography, civics and government, and economics. Instruction of the disciplines is often integrated for instructional purposes. Students may study these disciplines through the context of a specific theme or discipline, such as state-based social studies or U.S. history. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 3.

Music (grade 3) courses provide activities to enable students to create and perform music, listen and respond to musical compositions, and incorporate their musical experiences with other activities and subjects. Course content usually involves understanding music as creative expression and communication, developing skill with the voice and/or musical instruments, and establishing the ability to discern and critique. Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 3.

Art (grade 3) courses provide to students activities that foster creative expression, communication through artistic endeavor, and appreciation of culture and heritage. Activities may include those that enable students to refine their technique, increase their artistic vocabulary, and strengthen their critical abilities. Although the art form typically involves visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture, crafts, and the like), students may also explore other forms of art such as dance, music, and theater. Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 3.

Physical Education (grade 3) courses typically involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Loco motor skills, strength, endurance, flexibility, safety, and rules and conventions of games and sports are often the focus; health education topics may also be included. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 3.

Fourth Grade

Language Arts (grade 4) courses include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These courses may emphasize independent reading and writing in a variety of assignments and require students to respond to

different material in different ways. Grammar and usage of the English language may also be emphasized. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 4.

Writing (grade 4) courses focus on writing skills and may emphasize independent writing in a variety of assignments and require students to respond to different materials in different ways. Grammar and usage of the English language may also be emphasized. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 4.

Reading (grade 4) courses focus on reading skills and may emphasize independent reading in a variety of assignments and require students to respond to different material in different ways. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 4.

Mathematics (grade 4) courses typically emphasize number, operation, and quantitative reasoning; patterns, relationships, and algebraic thinking; geometry and spatial reasoning; and measurement. Course content may include activities that help students increase operational fluency, make connections between abstract symbols and concrete events or concepts, or present conclusions based on data. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 4.

Science (grade 4) courses typically explore complex systems, such as plant and animal adaptation, forces and motion, and physical and chemical changes in matter, or content consistent with state academic standards. Students may identify causes and effects of change, make predictions, and gather data from multiple sources. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 4.

Social Studies (grade 4) courses continue to develop skills in history, geography, civics and government, and economics. Although the four disciplines are typically integrated, these courses may take a more discipline-specific approach, such as concentrating on U.S. history, state-specific history, or civic engagement for periods of time. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 4.

Music (grade 4) courses provide activities to enable students to create and perform music, listen and respond to musical compositions, and incorporate their musical experiences with other activities and subjects. Course content usually involves understanding music as creative expression and communication, developing skill with the voice and/or musical instruments, and establishing the ability to discern and critique. Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 4.

Art (grade 4) courses provide to students activities that foster creative expression, communication through artistic endeavor, and appreciation of culture and heritage. Activities may include those that enable students to refine their technique, increase their artistic vocabulary, express themselves and their world view, make connections to other content areas, develop their own aesthetic, and strengthen their critical abilities. Although typically involving the visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture, crafts, and the like), these courses may also include other forms of art (for example, dance, music, and theater). Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 4.

Physical Education (grade 4) courses typically involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Loco motor skills, strength, endurance, flexibility, safety, and rules and conventions of games and sports are often the focus; health education topics may also be included. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 4.

Fifth Grade

Language Arts (grade 5) courses include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These courses may extend students' skills in composition, writing for particular purposes or audiences, distinguishing meaning and literary functions in texts, and fluency in reading. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 5.

Writing (grade 5) courses focus on writing skills and may extend students' skills in writing for particular purposes or audiences, distinguishing meaning and literary functions in texts, and fluency in writing. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 5.

Reading (grade 5) courses focus on reading skills and may extend students' skills in distinguishing meaning and literary functions in texts, and fluency in reading. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 5.

Mathematics (grade 5) courses typically emphasize number, operation, and quantitative reasoning; patterns, relationships, and algebraic thinking; geometry and spatial reasoning; and measurement. Course content may include activities that help students

increase operational fluency, make connections between abstract symbols and concrete events or concepts, or present their mathematical reasoning. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 5.

Science (grade 5) courses build on the study of various systems. They may include identification and description of cycles, comparisons of forms of matter and energy, forces, or content consistent with state academic standards. Students may make comparisons and interpret and analyze information. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 5.

Social Studies (grade 5) courses continue to develop skills in history, geography, civics and government, and economics. These courses may be more discipline-specific (dividing up state history, U.S. history, geography, government, and so on). Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 5.

Music (grade 5) courses provide activities to enable students to create and perform music, listen and respond to musical compositions, and incorporate their musical experiences with other activities and subjects. Course content usually involves understanding music as creative expression and communication, developing skill with the voice and/or musical instruments, and establishing the ability to discern and critique. Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 5.

Art (grade 5) courses provide to students activities that foster creative expression, communication through artistic endeavor, and appreciation of culture and heritage. Activities may include those that enable students to refine their technique, increase their artistic vocabulary, express themselves and their world view, make connections to other content areas, develop their own aesthetic, and strengthen their critical abilities. Although typically involving the visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture, crafts, and the like), these courses may also include other forms of art (for example, dance, music, and theater). Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 5.

Physical Education (grade 5) courses typically involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Loco motor skills, strength, endurance, flexibility, safety, and rules and conventions of games and sports are often the focus; health education topics may also be included. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 5.

ELECTIVES

General Band courses develop students' technique for playing brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments and cover a variety of non-specified band literature styles (concert, marching, orchestral, and modern styles).

Sixth Grade

ENGLISH

Language Arts (grade 6) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These courses may emphasize the use of language for different effects, in different contexts, and for different purposes. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

LITERATURE

Reading (grade 6) courses build upon students' prior knowledge and skill in reading and may emphasize the use of language for different effects, in different contexts, and for different purposes. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

MATH

Mathematics (grade 6) courses typically emphasize skills in numerical operations (including basic operations and their proper order); measurement; patterns; simple functions; geometry; and concepts of data analysis, including statistics and probability. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

SCIENCE

Science (grade 6) courses typically include subject matter from several strands of science, including earth/space sciences, physical sciences, and life or environmental sciences, and may organize material around thematic units. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies (grade 6) courses provide a greater understanding of social studies disciplines, including history, geography, civics and government, and economics. These courses often focus on the history, culture, and government of various specific world societies. Typically, students develop skills used in the social studies disciplines. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

P.E.

Physical Education (grade 6) courses typically involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Activities typically include those that increase strength, endurance, and flexibility; reinforce safe technique; teach the rules and conventions of games and sports; and explore the relationship between physical activity and health. Health topics (such as the effects of drugs and alcohol, sexual education, and healthy lifestyles) may also be included. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 6.

COMPUTERS

Computer Literacy courses provide to students the knowledge and ability to use computers and technology efficiently. Typically, course content includes exposure to word-processing, spreadsheet, and presentation applications, but also may include the various uses of computers in modern society. Specific course content aligns with state standards to promote students' technological literacy.

ELECTIVES

CHORUS

Chorus courses provide the opportunity to sing a variety of choral literature styles for men's and/or women's voices and are designed to develop vocal techniques and the ability to sing parts.

BAND

General Band courses develop students' technique for playing brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments and cover a variety of non-specified band literature styles (concert, marching, orchestral, and modern styles).

ART

Art (grade 6) courses provide to students activities that foster creative expression, communication through artistic endeavor, and appreciation of culture and heritage. Activities may include those that enable students to refine their technique, increase their artistic vocabulary, express themselves and their world view, make connections to other content areas, develop their own aesthetic, and strengthen their critical abilities. Although typically involving the visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture, crafts, and the like), these courses may also include other forms of art (for example, dance, music, and theater). Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 6.

Seventh Grade

ENGLISH

Language Arts (grade 7) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Beyond emphasizing different uses for language, these courses may also include using language (particularly written text) to construct meaning and connections. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

LITERATURE

Reading (grade 7) courses build upon students' prior knowledge and skill in reading and may emphasize the use of language for different effects, in different contexts, and for different purposes. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

MATH

Mathematics (grade 7) courses typically emphasize proficiency in skills involving numbers and operations; measurement; patterns; functions; algebraic formulas; geometry; and concepts of data analysis, including statistics and probability. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

SCIENCE

Science (grade 7) courses build on previous years of scientific inquiry and typically include subject matter from several strands of science, including earth sciences, physical sciences, and life or environmental sciences, and may organize material around thematic units. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies (grade 7) courses provide continued development of understanding and skills in the social studies disciplines: history, geography, civics and government, and economics. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

P.E.

Physical Education (grade 7) courses typically involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Activities typically include those that increase strength, endurance, and flexibility; reinforce safe technique; teach the rules and conventions of games and sports; and explore the relationship between physical activity and health. Health topics (such as the effects of drugs and alcohol, sexual education, and healthy lifestyles) may also be included. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 7.

COMPUTERS

Computer Literacy courses provide to students the knowledge and ability to use computers and technology efficiently. Typically, course content includes exposure to word-processing, spreadsheet, and presentation applications, but also may include the various uses of computers in modern society. Specific course content aligns with state standards to promote students' technological literacy.

ELECTIVES

CHORUS

Chorus courses provide the opportunity to sing a variety of choral literature styles for men's and/or women's voices and are designed to develop vocal techniques and the ability to sing parts.

BAND

Courses in Concert Band are designed to promote students' technique for playing brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments and cover a variety of band literature styles, primarily for concert performances.

ART

Art (grade 7) courses provide to students activities that foster creative expression, communication through artistic endeavor, and appreciation of culture and heritage. Activities may include those that enable students to refine their technique, increase their artistic vocabulary, express themselves and their world view, make connections to other content areas, develop their own aesthetic, and strengthen their critical abilities. Although typically involving the visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture, crafts, and the like), these courses may also include other forms of art (for example, dance, music, and theater). Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 7.

ENRICHED

ENRICHED SCIENCE

The specific content of Integrated Science courses varies, but they draw upon the principles of several scientific specialties—earth science, physical science, biology, chemistry, and physics—and organize the material around thematic units. Common themes covered include systems, models, energy, patterns, change, and constancy. These courses use appropriate aspects from each specialty to investigate applications of the theme.

ENRICHED MATH

Pre-Algebra courses increase students' foundational math skills and prepare them for Algebra I by covering a variety of topics, such as properties of rational numbers (i.e., number theory), ratio, proportion, estimation, exponents and radicals, the rectangular coordinate system, sets and logic, formulas, and solving first-degree equations and inequalities.

ENRICHED LITERATURE

Literature courses offer the opportunity for students to study and reflect upon the themes presented in the body of literature being presented. Students improve their critical-thinking skills as they determine the underlying assumptions and values within the reading selection and as they understand how the work reflects society's problems and culture. Oral discussion is an integral part of literature courses, and written compositions are often required. Literature courses may survey representative works, reflect a particular genre or a specific theme, or survey works of a particular time or people.

Eighth Grade

ENGLISH

Language Arts (grade 8) courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Typically, these courses use various genres of literature to improve reading skills, and they link writing exercises for different purposes to those reading selections. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

LITERATURE

Reading (grade 8) courses build upon students' prior knowledge and skill in reading. Typically, these courses use various genres of literature to improve reading skills, and link exercises for different purposes to those reading selections. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

MATH

Mathematics (grade 8) courses typically emphasize proficiency in skills involving numbers and operations, measurement, patterns, simple functions, algebra, geometry, statistics, and probability. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

SCIENCE

Science (grade 8) courses typically include subject matter from several strands of science, including earth sciences, physical sciences, and life or environmental sciences, and may organize material around thematic units. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies (grade 8) courses provide continued development of understanding and skills in the social studies disciplines: history, geography, civics and government, and economics. Typically, these courses focus on single disciplines at a time (e.g., state-specific history and government, U.S. history, world history, or civics) to develop discipline-related skills. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

P.E.

Physical Education (grade 8) courses typically involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide the foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Activities typically include those that increase strength, endurance, and flexibility; reinforce safe technique; teach the rules and conventions of games and sports; and explore the relationship between physical activity and health. Health topics (such as the effects of drugs and alcohol, sexual education, and healthy lifestyles) may also be included. Specific content depends upon state standards for grade 8.

COMPUTERS

Computer Literacy courses provide to students the knowledge and ability to use computers and technology efficiently. Typically, course content includes exposure to word-processing, spreadsheet, and presentation applications, but also may include the various uses of computers in modern society. Specific course content aligns with state standards to promote students' technological literacy.

ELECTIVES

CHORUS

Chorus courses provide the opportunity to sing a variety of choral literature styles for men's and/or women's voices and are designed to develop vocal techniques and the ability to sing parts.

BAND

Courses in Concert Band are designed to promote students' technique for playing brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments and cover a variety of band literature styles, primarily for concert performances.

ART

Art (grade 8) courses provide to students activities that foster creative expression, communication through artistic endeavor, and appreciation of culture and heritage. Activities may include those that enable students to refine their technique, increase their artistic vocabulary, express themselves and their world view, make connections to other content areas, develop their own aesthetic, and strengthen their critical abilities. Although typically involving the visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture, crafts, and the like), these courses may also include other forms of art (for example, dance, music, and theater). Specific course content conforms to any existing state standards for grade 8.

ENRICHED

ENRICHED SCIENCE

The specific content of Integrated Science courses varies, but they draw upon the principles of several scientific specialties—earth science, physical science, biology, chemistry, and physics—and organize the material around thematic units. Common themes covered include systems, models, energy, patterns, change, and constancy. These courses use appropriate aspects from each specialty to investigate applications of the theme.

ENRICHED MATH

Algebra I courses include the study of properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first-degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations.

ENRICHED LITERATURE

Literature courses offer the opportunity for students to study and reflect upon the themes presented in the body of literature being presented. Students improve their critical-thinking skills as they determine the underlying assumptions and values within the reading selection and as they understand how the work reflects society's problems and culture. Oral discussion is an integral part of literature courses, and written compositions are often required. Literature courses may survey representative works, reflect a particular genre or a specific theme, or survey works of a particular time or people.