

# PETERS TOWNSHIP MIDDLE SCHOOL

## COURSE SYLLABUS: LITERATURE FOUNDATIONS

Course Information	Teacher Information
<u>Course Length:</u> 60 day/Trimester <u>Class Location:</u> B5	<u>Name:</u> Mrs. Kern <u>Phone:</u> 724.941.6250 ext. 4008 <u>Email:</u> kernt@pt-sd.org

### **Course Overview and Essential Skills**

Literature Foundations is a novel-based course that meets every day for twelve weeks. This course offers students in-class guided and out-of-class assigned reading as they explore critical thinking skills, learn new vocabulary, and apply their skills in oral and written expression. Novels read in this course are *Tuesdays with Morrie* and *Incarceron*.

### **Course Textbook, Supplemental Resources and Required Materials**

- Blue folder (provided by teacher) and a pencil
- *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom ISBN #978-0-7679-0592-3
- *Tuesdays with Morrie* movie
- *Incarceron* by Catherine Fisher ISBN #978-0-14-241852-9

### **Course Outline of Material Covered:**

Unit or Topic	Course Activities/Resources	Timeframe
<i>Tuesdays with Morrie</i>	Morrie notebook/Journaling Comprehension Questions Comparative analysis involving multimedia/ <i>Tuesdays with Morrie</i> movie Essay Vocabulary and figurative language Tests Homework Classwork Quizzes	Approximately 5 weeks
<i>Incarceron</i>	Comprehension Questions Vocabulary and figurative language Author's style Conflicts Theme Essay Tests Homework Quizzes Classwork	Approximately 7 weeks

*\*Depending on the needs of the class or changes in the school year, the course outline is subject to change.*

### **Teacher Grading Policy:**

- Grades for the course will be calculated by total points.
- Late work will automatically receive zero credit.
- Long term assignments or projects may be turned in one day late for half credit before grading.
- Cheating and plagiarism are disciplinary infractions and result in a loss of credit as explained in the student handbook.

### **Classroom Procedures and Expectations:**

- Be on time: You are expected to be in your seat and completing the focus activities when the bell rings.
- Be prepared: You need to bring all of your materials with you to class every day.
- Be respectful: Do not touch anything unless it belongs to you. Show respect for all classmates and school personnel (including substitutes).
- Be responsible: Students are responsible for making all arrangements with the teacher regarding absences and missed assessments. Students are expected to self-advocate.
- All school rules apply in class and will be enforced. This includes the policy for late work due to student absences.

### **“Other”:**

Possible ways in which students can receive extra help are listed below:

- Students should make arrangements with teacher to receive extra help or make up work.
- Hot Shots Program: Students can sign up for this after-school program held in the PTMS library from 3:00 – 4:00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students must sign up through guidance.