



# ACES Academic Enrichment Center

## 2019 Summer Enrichment Course Syllabus

**Course Name: Fundamentals of Critical Reading for 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Graders**

### Course Description

The purpose of “Fundamentals of Critical Reading” is to transform students from passive readers -- those who simply read the words on the page without thinking -- to active readers who are thoroughly engaged with the work they are reading. Through learning how to identify the main point of passages, examining the implications thereof, and recalling the sequence of events, students not only improve their reading comprehension but gain skills that will be crucial for their success on future SAT and ACT testing. In reading from a variety of sources, students will learn to become more discerning readers, learning how to analyze the motivations of news articles as well as understanding the feelings and intentions of fictional characters.

### Course Objectives and Student Competencies

- Enhance student’s reading comprehension
- Gain confidence reading more complex material
- Master advanced readings in various subjects: literature, science, health, plays, poetry, opinion papers, philosophy, fiction, social science, satire
- Prepare students for high-school level Pre-AP/SAT/ACT readings

### Class Structure

Class begins with a short writing warm-up to introduce the new topic. We will read a type of reading that exemplifies the topic of the day. Students will write an analytical response to the reading, and later, we will discuss their responses and analyses.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Homework</b>
7/8	Reading beyond the plot; summary, main idea	Reading and Response #1
7/9	Aspects of analysis	Reading and Response #2
7/10	Themes, motifs, symbols in fiction	Reading and Response #3
7/11	Cont. themes, motifs, symbols in fiction	Reading and Response #4
7/12	Critical reading/understanding nonfiction	