

# 2024-2025 8th Grade-Technological Systems

Mrs. Gary

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## **DMS MISSION SY24-25**

*Dutchtown Middle School seeks to foster a safe and positive school community where all stakeholders are both actively and consistently engaged. We will commit ourselves daily towards sustaining high expectations for teaching and learning, nurturing positive relationships, and celebrating the collective success of our school and community.*

## **DMS VISION SY24-25**

*In truth, honor, and integrity, Dutchtown Middle School will create an environment of excellence in all that we do.*

## **Teacher Contact Information**

Email: [nerissa.mckinnongary@henry.k12.ga.us](mailto:nerissa.mckinnongary@henry.k12.ga.us)

Dutchtown Middle School Phone Number: 770-515-7500

## **Course Overview**

[Please click this link to view course standards.](#)

## **Required Classroom Supplies**

Charged chromebook, 1 inch notebook with dividers, pencils/pens, notebook paper, colored pencils, earbuds, handheld pencil sharpener

## **Classroom Rules/Expectations**

1. Arrive to class on time
2. Come prepared to learn with a positive attitude
3. Be an active and engaged member of the class and submit your assignments on time
4. Raise your hand when you have a question
5. Respect your teacher, yourself, and others

## **Communication**

1. Please look for teacher texts about projects, upcoming quizzes & tests, grade uploads, etc. via **Remind**. Sign up information is located in Google Classroom.
2. **Infinite Campus** is an online tool that allows students and parents to see grades online. Grades will be updated weekly.
3. Please contact me at the **email** listed above to obtain information, ask questions, or set up a conference with your child's academic teachers.

## Grading Policy

### Academic Grades

a. The following grading format is required for use by all DMS instructional staff members:

<b>Practice Work (40% of grade)</b>	<b>Assessment Tasks (40% of grade)</b>	<b>Semester Summative Assessment Tasks (20% of grade)</b>
<p><b>*Classwork</b> <b>*Formative Assessments (Quizzes, TOTD, etc.)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Administered in frequent intervals (e.g., daily or several times a week), as determined by the teacher</li><li><b>Formal methods</b> include district or school developed formative assessments or quizzes.</li><li><b>Informal methods</b> include but are not limited to white board writes, tickets out of the door, and other means to monitor scholar comprehension consistently.</li></ul>	<p><b>*Summative Unit Assessments</b> <b>*Constructed/Selected Response Assessments</b> <b>*Culminating Performance Tasks/Projects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>minimum of two assessment grades per semester</li><li>must be district or department co-created</li><li>scholars <b>must</b> be provided with a rubric for each performance task/project on the day the task/project is assigned</li><li>the lowest Assessment grade will be dropped at the end of each semester</li><li>Scholars <b>MAY</b> have an opportunity to re-assess on a Summative Assessment once remediation/tutoring has occurred</li></ul>	<p><b>*Semester Summative Assessment/ EOC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No exemptions for any grade level</li><li>Culminating tasks/projects (core or connections) may be assigned, but draft assessments must be provided to the department administrator two weeks prior to the date of the assessment (if applicable)</li></ul>

b. Scholars should receive at least one academic grade in each subject each week. Grades should be entered into the gradebook weekly.

### Grading Scales

Scholars will be evaluated using the following scale:

90-100=A

80-89=B

74-79=C

70-73=D

Below 69=F

### Non-Academic Grades

Scholars will be evaluated on non-academic factors as follows through the conduct grade:

S- Satisfactory

N- Needs Improvement

U- Unsatisfactory

### Homework Policies:

- Assignments are expected to be completed on time and submitted according to the teacher's instructions.
- Homework may include reading assignments, research tasks, problem-solving exercises, or design challenges.
- Students are encouraged to seek help from the teacher if they have questions or need clarification on homework assignments.
- Late homework submissions may be subject to a penalty, unless there are extenuating circumstances. Students should communicate with the teacher in advance if they anticipate a delay in submitting their homework.

### Late Work Policies:

- Students are expected to submit assignments on time.
- Late work may be accepted under special circumstances, such as illness or family emergencies. Students should communicate with the teacher as soon as possible to discuss any potential delays.
- Late work will be subject to a penalty, which will be determined by the teacher based on the nature of the assignment and the length of the delay.
- It is the student's responsibility to catch up on missed assignments and to submit them within a reasonable timeframe as determined by the teacher.
- Ongoing issues with late or missing work may result in additional consequences, such as parent notification.

## **Science Fair**

A Science and Engineering Fair project is a requirement for this course. Details and support will be provided during class sessions and through Google Classroom. This project will be a portion of your scholar's grade.

## **Dress for Success**

Scholars will be required to participate in Dress for Success. This will typically take place the last Monday and Tuesday of each month. This will count as a classwork grade. Guidelines and the rationale for Dress for Success are available in Google Classroom.

## **Classroom Expectations**

1. **Respect:** Students are expected to show respect for themselves, their peers, and the teacher at all times. Students must conduct themselves in a mature and appropriate manner at all times.
2. **Participation:** Active participation in class discussions, group activities, and hands-on projects is required. Students are expected to follow all instructions for the course. Consistent failure to follow instructions will result in dismissal from the course.
3. **Preparedness:** Students must come to class with all necessary materials, including notebooks, pens, and any assigned readings or homework.
4. **Safety:** Students are required to follow safety guidelines in the Engineering and Technology Laboratory to ensure a safe learning environment. Failure to do so will result in dismissal from the course.
5. **Collaboration:** Teamwork and cooperation are essential for successful completion of group projects and activities.

[Please complete this form to acknowledge that you have read and understand the information in this document.](#)