

7th Grade English/Reading 2009-2010

Instructor: Mr. Hill M.Ed.

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Course Description:

Seventh grade English and Reading integrate listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Books of choice will be balanced with required texts to foster a life-long love of reading, critical reading skills, and vocabulary development. Students will read, write, and study various genres, including novels, plays, poetry, and short stories.

Students will learn the writing process. Writing will be modeled, shared, and critiqued in many stages. Students will learn to self-edit, peer-edit, and write conventionally. Grammar, spelling, mechanics, punctuation, content and sentence/paragraph structure will be addressed as students write in various styles of writing to different audiences. Some integration of Social Studies and Science will be connected with this course.

Objectives:

- To develop a growing sense of self as a reader and to relate personally with books
- To identify with particular authors and their writing craft
- To be exposed to a wide variety of literary genres
- To expand vocabulary
- To use the writing process
- To learn the foundations for competent writing through instruction in grammar, vocabulary, spelling and mechanics
- To practice various forms of writing including expressive, descriptive, narrative, informative, persuasive, and journaling
- To encourage creativity and imagination
- To develop speaking, listening, critiquing skills through shared writing pieces in various stages of writing process

Grading:

A, A+	90 - 100	Excellent
B, B+	80 - 89	Very Good
C, C+	70 - 79	Satisfactory
D	60 - 69	Unsatisfactory
F	0 - 60	Failing

Assessments for Course:

Homework assignments, reading logs, projects, and papers are due at the beginning of the class period. Students are accountable for their own assignments and may not work together unless specified by the teacher. If a student is absent, the student is responsible for retrieving make-up work - which will be due within the same number of days absent. If a class is missed, when students return to class, they must have all assignments prepared and ready to turn in for credit. Late work that can be accepted may receive a reduced grade. Extra credit work may be available if all work has been completed at the time of the request.

Reading Grade Expectations:

- Homework - 20%
- Tests and quizzes- 50%
- Performance - 10%
- Classwork - 20%

English Grade Expectations

- Homework - 25%
- Tests and quizzes - 30%
- Performance - 15%
- Classwork - 30%

At the end of the year a cumulative assessment may be given that will count as 10% of the final grade in each subject.

Classroom Behavior Expectations:

- Students are to come to class prepared to learn and put forth their best effort.
- Respect is required to be given to the teacher and teacher's assistant as well as fellow classmates. Respect is shown through attitude, behavior and work ethic.
- Students are expected to bring their Agenda book and all necessary materials to class daily. [Agenda books are required as hall passes, and required to log all homework and assignments]
- The teacher or teacher's assistant will dismiss students, not the bell. Before leaving the classroom, students will be required to return it to its original form: desks straight, books away, trash picked up.

- Collaboration vs. Cheating: Students are encouraged to work together in preparation for a unit test or exam. The exchange of information between students, or use of unauthorized aids during a quiz, test, or exam constitutes cheating and will not be tolerated.
- Plagiarism is the practice of using someone else's work and passing it off as one's own. It is a form of cheating and will not be tolerated.
- Any and all rules set forth by the school administration / seventh grade team must be followed in the classroom.

Supplies such as pencils, pens, and notebooks are to be furnished by the student.

Extra Help Policy:

The teacher will generally be available Monday through Thursday until 3:00 p.m.

 Please cut & return completed, keep top portion for your records. 

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Please sign below to indicate that you have read these guidelines, understand what is expected, and agree to abide by the terms set forth. A copy of this document will be kept on file.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent or Guardian Phone Number: _____

Parent or Guardian Email Address: _____