

Course Expectations

Mrs. Hoover

Seventh Grade Reading

I. COURSE SCOPE AND GOALS:

This one year required course reinforces the development of strategic reading behaviors at a seventh grade level. This course emphasizes an interactive approach in which students construct meaning from text. The course focus is on students utilizing vocabulary, thought processes, and strategies to become independent readers and learners.

Course Goals:

1. To utilize the reading process as a foundation for learning.
2. To know and use word analysis skills and strategies to strengthen vocabulary and increase comprehension.
3. To read to understand, interpret, and analyze literature (fiction).
4. To read to understand, interpret, and analyze informational text (nonfiction).
5. To practice strategic study/learning behaviors.
6. To apply effective information acquisition and research strategies.
7. To provide appropriate instruction for students who demonstrate weaknesses or discrepancies in reading.
8. To develop independent learners who read for information as well as enjoyment.
9. To build respect and tolerance for the ideas of diversity by reading a wide variety of multicultural literature.
10. To develop the love of reading as a lifetime skill.

II. PRE REQUISITES

Students must have a seventh grade standing.

III. PRE-ASSESSMENTS

Each student will take the Degree of Reading Power Test, (D.R.P.), silent reading comprehension assessment, and a syllabus based pretest during the first several weeks of classes to determine areas requiring improvement and strengths in alignment with the Clark County School District Reading 7 Course Syllabus.

IV. POST-ASSESSMENTS

Students will take a syllabus based post-assessment, a silent reading comprehension, and the Degree of Reading Power Test (D.R.P.) to determine individual growth in course content, accomplishment of individual growth with regard to performance objectives, and strengths and weaknesses of the teaching-learning process. Students will take a quarterly assessment in order to measure progress for objectives introduced during each quarter in alignment with Nevada state standards.

V. COURSE ACTIVITIES

A. *Testing:* The teacher will administer tests and quizzes throughout the course of study to determine the individual student's development as well as the effectiveness of the teaching strategies/methodologies. A semester exam will be given at the end of each semester. The semester exam will count for no more than 20% of the final semester grade.

B. Assignments: Assignments will be assigned throughout the week in accordance with the Bob Miller Middle School's homework policy. English, reading, earth science and math will assign 20 minutes of homework Monday-Thursday. All assignments are due on time. Students are expected to work in class on assignments when time is allowed. Papers should be neat and legible. Papers without names will be discarded after a certain length of time determined by the teacher. Every student is expected to do his/her own work. Any students sharing work will receive a zero, unless it is a cooperative learning assignment.

C. Make-up Work (CCSD REG.5113):

After any absence, a secondary student is required to initiate contact with the teacher(s) to obtain appropriate make up work within three (3) school days immediately following the absence. Once contact has been made with the teacher(s), specific make up work must be completed and returned to the teacher(s) within a reasonable length of time, to be determined by the teacher and communicated to the student/parent or legal guardian. The make up work must be returned to the teacher(s) by the specified due date if it is to be acknowledged. Students shall be allowed a minimum of three (3) days to complete make up work. Explanations and/or help are available at the teacher's scheduled availability times, NOT during the class period.

D. Extra Credit: Extra credit may be built into some assignments. Extra credit may be offered periodically through the school year.

E. Homework Policy: Homework may be assigned Monday through Thursday. It is expected that students turn in all homework on time and complete.

F. Late Work: Late work is marked down 10% of the total earned grade for each day that it is late. After 5 days, no assignment will be accepted for credit. However, late assignments need to be completed for the review of information and acquisition of knowledge for future assignments or assessments. [Get course expectations signed](#)

G. Long-Term Assignments: Long-term assignments are designed to enhance learning and help students become organized, accountable, and increase time management skills. Students are expected to complete all long-term assignments according to the time frame the teacher has designed and are responsible for turning each portion in on time with *no exceptions!* Students who are absent on the day a long-term assignment is due, must turn that assignment in the day they return to school

H. Academic Dishonesty: If students are found guilty of academic dishonesty (cheating), the teacher will collect the assignment, mark a zero for the work and notify the parent of the consequences. A second offense of cheating or continued academic dishonesty may result in a notice of required parent conference at which time future consequences will be discussed.

VI. EVALUATION

A. Student grades will be earned through:

1. Semester Exams and Test: One exam per semester will constitute 20% of the grade. Final exam is on overall computation.
2. Classroom assignments will constitute 40% of the grade.
3. Long-term assignments and research will constitute 20% of the grade.
4. Homework assignments will constitute 20% of the grade.
5. Classroom tests and quizzes will constitute 20% of the grade.

6. Participation is a daily concern in the educational process.
7. Extra Credit may be offered throughout the school year.

B. Letter grades represent the following:

A=	100% - 90%	Excellent
B=	89% - 80%	Above average
C=	79% - 70%	Average
D=	69% - 60%	Below average
F=	Below - 59%	Failing

C. Students will be required to provide feedback on grade and academic progress to their parents on a weekly basis.

D. Grades can be accessed through the Internet via the InTouch system. Grades will be updated weekly.

VII. BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

Citizenship Grades - Citizenship grades will be based on a student's ability to follow the classroom procedures. The students are expected to:

- * come to class prepared and ready to learn.
- * show respect to others and the learning environment. (No excessive talking/insubordination or horseplay.)
- * respect all school rules and district policies.
- * have homework and assignments ready.
- * READ!

Infractions of these expectations may result in the lowering of a student's citizenship grade.

O (Outstanding)	The student is always prepared for class, actively participates in class activities and is a positive influence on other students.
S (Satisfactory)	The student is generally prepared for class, frequently participates in class activities and does not infringe on the rights of others.
N (Needs Improvement)	The student is often unprepared for class, exhibits behavior that regularly interferes with other students' learning, and does not follow classroom rules.
U (Unsatisfactory)	The student is frequently unprepared for class, fails to participate in class activities, exhibits behavior that interferes with other students' learning, and does not follow school and/or classroom rules.

Progressive Discipline Policy - If rules are violated, the following steps will occur:

- * Conference with student
- * Parent Contact
- * Teacher Detention (Optional by teacher discretion) or
- * Counselors referral
- * Deans referral

*Major infractions can result in an immediate dean referral. These infractions can result in an automatic unsatisfactory mark in citizenship.

VIII. GENERAL INFORMATION

- * Tardies - Students more than 1/2 hour tardy will be marked absent. The school tardy policy will be followed for all students that are tardy to class. All students need to be in class on time. Students are considered tardy when both feet are not in the classroom when the bell rings.
- * Restroom - Students should use their time between classes to go to the restroom.
- * Students are expected to respect the school property and other students' personal property.

IX. REQUIRED SUPPLIES

- 1 composition book
- red, black, and blue ink pens (**red is for correcting**) (*no gel pens*)
- white out tape
- pencils
- binder
- loose leaf paper
- optional:**
 - colored pencils
 - glue stick
 - scissors
 - ruler
 - clear sheet protectors (10)
 - post-it notes (small)
 - three-hole paper reinforcers

X. CONTACT INFORMATION

It is recommended that you contact the teacher through email or in a note through the planner.

To reach me through the Internet, go to <http://www.CCSD.net/schools/miller/> and access the schoolnotes.com for specific teacher website information.

In order to reach me via the phone, call Bob Miller Middle School at 799-2260 and your call will be returned within a 24-hour period either before or after school hours.

XI. SIGN - OFF FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

AFTER READING THE COURSE EXPECTATIONS, PLEASE FILL OUT AND SIGN THE ATTACHED SHEET. THIS VERIFIES THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE READ AND RECEIVED A COPY OF THE COURSE EXPECTATIONS. THIS SHEET ALSO GIVES ME THE INFORMATION THAT WOULD BE NECESSARY SHOULD I NEED TO CONTACT THE PARENT (S) DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR. **PLEASE KEEP THE COURSE EXPECTANCY SHEET. EACH STUDENT SHOULD KEEP THIS IN THE HANDOUT SECTION OF READING IN HIS/HER NOTEBOOK.

Name (First and last) _____ Period _____

I have read and received a copy of the course expectations sheet for Mrs. Hoover's Seventh Grade Reading class.

Parent/Guardian name (please print)

Home phone

Best time to contact

Parent/Guardian signature

Work phone

Best time to contact

Complete address (please print)

Parent/Guardian name (please print)

Home phone

Best time to contact

Parent/Guardian signature

Work phone

Best time to contact

Complete address (please print)

Email Address of parent or guardian (please print)

Student signature