

## Course Syllabus

Teacher: Lisa Russ  
Class: Reading 7

### Contact Information

School Phone: 443-3101  
Email: [lruss@esu2.org](mailto:lruss@esu2.org)  
Home Phone: 540-1150

### Course Description

This course will give students the opportunity to read every day. It is designed to increase students' reading fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, and most importantly, their desire to read. ☺ The five elements of literature (plot, characterization, setting, point of view, and theme) will also be emphasized.

### Materials Needed (should be brought to class each day)

- pen or pencil
- a self-selected novel
- reading folder

### Academic and Behavioral Expectations

The class period is approximately 45 minutes long. There will be several guided and independent activities that will take place in that time. It is expected that the student work within Wahoo Middle School's academic and behavioral expectations. (see below) All homework assigned will be due at the beginning of class unless otherwise noted. Quizzes and tests will be announced in advance and need to be completed the day that they are assigned. Long-term projects will also be announced in advance and are to be completed by the date assigned.

#### ***Wahoo Middle School Academic Expectations***

- *Be on time and prepared for learning*
- *Complete assigned tasks on time*
- *Strive for academic success*
- *Use work time productively*
- *Respect people and property*
- *Respond appropriately to staff directives*

### Grading

The Reading grade is divided into four categories: Individual Reading (35%), Class Novel Study (35%), Journal/Literature Logs (20%), and Vocabulary (10%). Daily assignments, along with journal and log entries, will be graded on a 10-point scale. All other assignments (quizzes, tests, projects, individual reading rubric) will be graded on a 100-point scale.

### Additional Information

If a student misses class, getting the notes, activity sheets and assignments is the student's responsibility. Extra copies of assignments can be found on the table by the teacher's desk. The student can ask questions or seek additional help outside of class before school, during study hall, and after school. In addition, the student can call the teacher at home in the evening if needed.

### Calendar of assignments (subject to change)

There will be...

- Four (or five ☺) class novels read:
  1. Knots in My Yo-Yo String by Jerry Spinelli
  2. The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
  3. Shelf Life edited by Gary Paulsen
  4. Mississippi Trial, 1955 by Chris Crowe
  5. Seedfolks by Paul Fleischman
- Vocabulary activities and quizzes
- Journal entries and literature responses
- Comprehension and fluency activities and quizzes
- Various projects based on class novels

"When love and skill work together, expect a masterpiece."

*John Ruskin (1819-1900) English Writer*