**RR English**

**Course Guide**

2019 - 2020

Ms. Smith

**Course Description:**

This course will focus on improving skills in reading, writing, literary awareness, grammar, and vocabulary. Students’ individual IEP reading and/or writing goals will be addressed.

This course meets graduation requirements for English.

**Bring to class:**

* Textbook, *Elements of Literature, Fourth Course*, Holt
* AR book – with advance notice from teacher
* Pencils/Pens
* Notebook or binder
* A positive attitude!

**Course Goals**

Over the course of the year in RR English, we will -

* Read and analyze pieces of literature of diverse genre
* Communicate ideas using writing
* Build reading muscles by reading together and alone
* Improve reading comprehension skills
* Improve writing skills, including mechanics and grammar

**Classroom Expectations/Rules**

* Be seated and ready to begin when the bell rings. Repeated requests to leave class to get materials AFTER the bell will be frowned upon.
* Don’t bring food or drink in here other than WATER.
* CELL PHONES are not needed or allowed, *unless* the teacher tells you otherwise.

(Classroom Expectations, continued)

* Behavior Rules:
  + Students are expected to *respect others* and their property. They will be *courteous and cooperative* to all, allowing others the right to learn.
  + Students are expected to *be prepared*, self-motivated, and willing to *work and study* to their ability.
  + Students are expected to know and follow all room and school rules, and are responsible for their own behavior.
* If you are having trouble understanding a topic or with an assignment – ASK FOR HELP.
* If you are absent from class, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to find out from me what assignments you missed.
* Be sure your work has name and date at the top and is readable. Be neat and take your time -- quality matters!

**Grading Procedures**

* Late papers will be marked down. Your assignment will drop 10% for every school day it is late. Exception: If you are absent, you will have as many days as you were gone to get the missed work turned in.
* Your quarter grade will be calculated using the following formula:
  + Tests and quizzes (including AR book tests) 60%
  + Daily assignments and homework 40%

Note: Students are required to read and test over one AR book per quarter. Due dates for tests will be announced and posted.

Academic Honesty is expected. Cheating or plagiarism on assignments or tests will result in a zero on the given assignment or assessment, and further disciplinary action will be a possibility.

Also, the final exam at the end of each semester counts as 20% of the overall term grade.