

# Reading Dynamics

## Mr. Gillis 2015



**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Reading is essential for success in all facets of life. Students who make reading a habit will have more success in school, career choices, and in their personal lives. This course is designed to help students learn effective reading strategies, to develop an appreciation for reading, and to help them learn how to gather information from a variety of reading texts.

**TEXTBOOKS:** Scholastic Code-X, personal reading book, non-fiction texts, and assorted reading circle choices.

**MATERIALS NEEDED:** Each student will need writing materials. Students will also need to bring something for personal reading time, which could include assigned readings from other classes.

**GRADING:** Students will be graded on participation, in-class assignments, and a variety of reading assessments. Students will need to attend class regularly if they want an A in the class. Make-up work may be done to get partial credit; however, it will not be sufficient to cover excessive absences.

Grading will be done on a total point system. A percentage will be based on what the student earns out of how many points were possible. Work that will be graded will include daily class work, quizzes, tests, and on-task reading. **Please note** that reading will make up the majority of the grade. Students who don't do the reading will not be able to pass the class.

Grade Scale:



A 100 - 93%	C 76 - 73%
A- 92 - 90%	C- 72 - 70%
B+ 89 - 87%	D 68 - 63%
B 86 - 83%	D- 62 - 60%
B- 82 - 80%	F 59% & Below
C+ 79 - 77%	

**LATE WORK:** Students will be expected to complete daily work in class. If students do not complete the assignment, it will need to be finished at home or during Cave Time. If students are absent, they will be required to make up any missed assignments, and will need to find the assignment on the class blog, or pick up any missed assignments when they return to class. Students missing class for school-related activities still need to make up any missed assignments. If you will be missing school for an extended period of time, please notify the teacher as soon as possible. No late work, revised work, or extra credit is accepted during the last week of a term. See those dates on the class calendar on the class website which will be updated weekly ([gillisafj.weebly.com](http://gillisafj.weebly.com)).

**If you are absent, you will need to make up your daily reading points** with the teacher either before or after school, during Cave Time, or through a home reading log that must be signed by your parent or guardian.

**HOMEWORK POLICY:** Since this class is to help students become more proficient readers, most of the work will be completed during the regular class period. Occasionally, students will need to complete a homework assignment. Outside reading is always encouraged.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** The school's attendance policy -- outlined in the student handbook -- is followed in this class. Illnesses or excused absences are expected occasionally. Any assignments missed will need to be made up.

**TARDY POLICY:** Students are expected to be in their seats ready to work when the bell rings. Arriving late to class is detrimental to learning and is disruptive to the entire class. I will follow the tardy policy as outlined in the school handbook.

**DISCIPLINE PLAN:** Disciplinary action will be taken with a student when he/she fails to follow the classroom or school rules. Possible actions include warnings, contacting a parent, meeting with an administrator, removal from class, detention, or suspension.



### Class Rules:

1. Be where you're supposed to be when you're supposed to be there, doing what you're supposed to be doing.
2. Be kind.
3. Be attentive and responsive.
4. Be good to the stuff.
  - a. Don't do damage.
  - b. Put it where it belongs.

**GRADING TIME:** Students can expect to receive results on assignments, tests, and most other work turned in within two or three days. Assignments that are graded and returned should be kept in the student's personal binder or folder until term grades are in and have been verified. Parents and student should use Skyward often to stay aware of current grade, any missing work, or work that needs to be finished or redone.

**NUISANCE ITEMS:** Items that disrupt the learning process are not allowed in the classroom. These include iPods, cell phones, electronic games, etc. These will be taken away from the student and will be turned over to an administrator. I will not be responsible for lost or stolen items. I suggest you leave these expensive items in your locker or at home.

### **CONTACTING THE TEACHER:**

The best way to contact me will be through email (include "Parent of..." in subject line). You may also leave a voice message if you prefer (801-756-8543 ext 229). Email: [dgillis@alpinedistrict.org](mailto:dgillis@alpinedistrict.org)

*Please sign and return the next page*

## Reading Dynamics Disclosure Signature Sheet – Gillis

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

### PARENTAL INVOLVMENT REQUESTED

A major factor in student literary success lies in the time parents are willing to invest in reading and discussing texts with their children. These readings and discussions should focus on ideas associated with the text as well as the content of the text.

Will you, the parent or legal guardian of your students, take time every week to read and discuss a text or part of a text with your students? These texts can be anything your and your students choose to read from product reviews, to news article, to novels, to screen plays, to advertisements etc.

- Yes
- No

<b>Print</b> Parent Name:	
Parent Signature:	
Parent Email:	
Parent BEST day-time phone # (s)	
<b>Print</b> Student Name:	
Student Signature:	
Student Email	
Comments:  What should I know about you to help you be successful in this class?	