

# 7TH GRADE READING



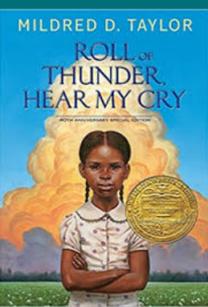
Ms. Burrows  
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Room 9

## Course Description

In this reading class, we will focus on comprehension of literature and ways to analyze an author's craft. Books are one of the best ways to understand the past as well as the world around us today. We will talk about how the themes of past decades of literature still apply to today. By the end of the semester, my goal is that you as students will be proficient in analysis of the elements of fiction and will have made progress in your reading level.

### Class Novel

An important introduction to the Civil Rights Movement, *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* follows a young girl experiencing racism and prejudice in the 1930s. Discussions will be based around historical events and the elements of fiction. We will also use a non-fiction text, *Getting Away with Murder*, as a companion to our discussions.



### Literature Circles

The second half of the semester will be devoted to student choice books and literature circle discussions. Students will agree to read a book with a small group and direct their own discussions each week.



## Citizenship & Values

The best learning takes place in a safe community. I expect us all to work together to create the best learning environment for everyone.



### Be Prepared

Come to class with all materials and be ready to work!



### Be Respectful

Our rules and procedures are purposeful and should be respected. I also expect high-quality respect between you and your peers.



### Be Compassionate

Learning in a community requires positive and compassionate language, behavior, and attitude. Bullying in any form will not be tolerated.



### Be Honest

Cheating or any form of dishonesty will not be tolerated. All of your work should be your own.



### Be Hard Working

Classwork and homework are both integral to learning. I expect you to make your best effort to complete all assignments.

Disregarding or violating any of these values will result in deductions from your citizenship grade as per school policy. The grading scale is as follows:  
S = 80-100, N = 50-79, U = 0-49

## Procedures

Here is some brief, important information to help our class run smoothly. These procedures directly relate to our citizenship and values.

### Attendance

You will undoubtedly get the most out of your education if you are present and prepared. However, with all the tools at our disposal, it is important that you stay home if you are feeling sick. I will post all assignments and materials on Canvas where you can access them at home.

### Cellphones & Other Devices

Cellphones and other personal technology devices directly interfere with your learning while at school. These devices should remain in your backpack for the entire class period. I will confiscate any cellphone, etc. I see and send it to the office for the rest of the day. After 3 offences, your parent or guardian will need to come to school to claim your device.

### Consequence Cycle

Consequences will follow this order: 1) a verbal warning from me, 2) another verbal warning and a point deduction from your citizenship grade, 3) an email or phone call to your parents and another point deduction from your citizenship grade, and finally 4) involvement of an administrator and any action they feel is appropriate.

### Technology

Our classroom is fortunate to have Chromebooks at our disposal each day for each student. Students will be held accountable for their care of the Chromebooks. I will follow Nebo District policies regarding media and technology in the classroom.

## Classroom Library

I have a large collection of books available in the classroom. I have not read every book on my shelves and therefore cannot vouch for the content of each book. If you come across questionable content, please let me know.

## Grades

### Scale

- ✓ A-90-100%
- ✓ B-80-89%
- ✓ C-70-79%
- ✓ I- 0-69%

### Breakdown

- ✓ Classwork (Participation) = 50%
- ✓ Mastery = 50%



**"Education is the most powerful weapon for changing the world."**

**-Nelson Mandela**

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