Class Overview:

Academic Literacy is separated into two semesters, in which students will engage in the following:

- Grow in the area of reading, through the use of iLit programming. Besides group and individual readings, students will grow through vocabulary, reading comprehension, and writing based on readings.
- Connect with subject material to create personal and community-oriented classroom experiences, while meeting the Nebraska Department of Education skills/standards.

Classroom Requirements:

- Students will follow the guidelines as instructed in the North High School student handbook.
- Students are expected to respect self and others (classmates, teacher, and environment).
- Students are expected to arrive on time and bring the appropriate classroom materials. Tardies and absences are documented and will be noted for administrators, parents, and other teachers to view.
- Students need to keep cellphones in front pouch during class time. If a cellphone is being used without the student previously gaining permission, the phone will be taken for the period. If this occurs on multiple occasions, the phone may be given to the office for the day.
- Students should accommodate for their classmates—nobody should be kept from learning.
- Students are required to carry their IDs with them at all times. This is mandatory for leaving the classroom with a pass, and students will be granted four restroom passes per semester, unless teacher is provided with a nurse’s note.
- Work “Re-dos” are not penalized but may have limited availability (e.g. summative assessments cannot be redone). Check with the teacher if you have an assignment you would like to fix.
If classroom expectations are not followed, consequences may include a warning, being moved elsewhere in the classroom, detention, parental contact, and/or referral. Other appropriate consequences may be issued as conflict arises.

**Course Materials:**

Students will need their laptops and their charger cords. Because the program utilized in this course is online, this is vital for class time, but extra laptops will also be available in my classroom if a student does not have one. Students will also need something to write with (on particular days, this will be a pencil, on other days, a pen is acceptable).

**Course Grading:**

Students and parents can check grades using Infinite Campus. The grading scale, set by the OPS Board of Education, is as follows:

- **A** = 3.26 – 4.00
- **B** = 2.51 – 3.25
- **C** = 1.76 – 2.50
- **D** = 1.01 – 1.75
- **F** = 0.00 – 1.00

The following percentages will dictate student grades:

- **Writing** → 40%
- **Reading** → 40%
- **Multiple Literacies** → 10%
- **Listening/Speaking** → 10%

Finally, within each of the above four objectives, there will be three types of assessments/assignments graded/ungraded:

- **Practice assignments/assessments** → 0% of grade (these typically occur before learning/units)
- **Formative assignments/assessments** → 35% of grade (these occur during learning/units)
- **Summative assignments/assessments** → 65% of grade (these occur following learning/units)
Students should check with me immediately about make-up work for missed classes. I cannot accept late work following the final summative assessment of a unit. If a student is unable to turn in work in a timely manner, he/she needs to speak to me before the day it is due.

**Cheating/Plagiarism/Forgery/Lying:**

Any form of cheating and/or plagiarism is unacceptable and not tolerated in my classroom. Prohibited actions include cheating on a test or assigned work by giving, receiving, offering, and/or soliciting information, plagiarizing by copying the language, structure, idea, and/or thoughts of another, falsifying statements on any assigned schoolwork, tests, or other school documents, and using materials, notes, or other aids (including but not limited to electronic devices that are not approved). Lying is also unacceptable—this involves misrepresenting the truth in any fashion, including claiming an assignment to be yours (when it has been copied from elsewhere), forging signatures, etc. Students will be awarded a zero for the plagiarized assignment, and parent contact will be made.

Every student will be held to a high standard, and I am excited to see knowledge expand within the classroom. All individuals have different needs, and I hope for each of those needs to be met as we explore English in a variety of ways. If you are in need of additional help/accommodations, I am happy to provide—please speak to me/email if anything arises. I'm looking forward to a successful year; welcome to my class!
Please fill out the form below and turn in to Mrs. Bell.

I, _________________________________, have read and understand Mrs. Bell’s Academic Literacy 2019-2020 Syllabus. I will abide by the rules set in this classroom, and I will treat others and myself with respect. I will never intentionally submit another’s work to be my own, and I will turn in work that is only mine.

Student Signature

Date