

# *Reading is Thinking 10S Course Outline*

Credit Value: 1.0

Course Code: 0789

September 2021 – January 2022

Alonsa School  
(204) 767-2168  
Gr. 9/10

Teacher: Mrs. D. Grimstead  
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Days 1-6 Period 4  
1 pm – 2:12 pm

## Course Description

*Reading is Thinking* is a course like no other. World renowned dance choreographer Twyla Tharp says that, “*the two things that will have the greatest impact on you over the next five years are the people that you will meet and what you will read.*” A powerful realization if you think about it. Interestingly enough people really don't pay that much attention to **how they read or what they are doing to make meaning out of a text**. Seriously, have you ever spent any time considering how you made sense out of a book, article or video that you have looked at in the past? You've certainly developed a strategy or two over the years to help you with this, but you may be hard-pressed to explain just how you did it. This class aims to take what you know and then expand on it. *Reading is Thinking* is a course designed to help you improve your skills in reading and thinking critically and creatively.

## Course Focus

- ❖ **Thinking About Self:** Students develop their identities as confident, engaged, and motivated readers within their diverse communities.
- ❖ **Thinking About Text:** Students develop the characteristics and practices of proficient readers before, during, and after reading within and across disciplines.
- ❖ **Thinking About the World:** Students will develop critical reading/literacy in order to develop deeper understanding of a variety of texts in order to express and substantiate personal positions and to solve problems, make decisions, resolve conflicts, and take action in their world.

## Themes & Units of Study

1. **Who am I as a Reader?** Different perspectives/lenses.
2. **Text:** What counts as a text? A book? A movie? A game? A painting?  
Aesthetic vs. Pragmatic Texts.
3. **The Reading Process and Reading Strategies:** Questioning, Predicting, Role-Playing/Visualizing, Connecting, Experimenting, Researching, etc.
4. **Independent Reading Component** : On-going

Note: Units/Topics are subject to change due to availability of resources, time, or unforeseen events at the discretion of instructor.

## Required Materials:

- Loose leaf note paper and a binder ( 4 inch ) to keep RIT class work in.
- 1 Separate Binder for Portfolio collection
- Pencils & Pens (Blue, Black and Red)
- Pencil Crayons and/or Coloured Markers for Daily & Product work
- Highlighters for the Purpose of Close Reading/Annotation + other required work
- USB Memory stick - **must have** for the purpose of storing ELA work files and work in progress.

**You are asked to acquire above materials as quickly as possible and bring them with you to EVERY class.**

## Grading & Assignments

- **Credit is based on a Complete/Incomplete (CO / IN).**
- **Achievement of goals** is set between the students and teacher.  
Your **Progress** in this course will be charted via observation, conversation and product.  
There will be a variety of activities and assignments to demonstrate skills in each of the main areas.
- **Participation** in activities, individual/partner/group, will be necessary for meeting the requirements of this course.
- **Concurrently**, there will be regular work done with a **Journal**. It will contain responses, gleanings, and questions that have come up for you during the course. Your Journal can be a section within the binder and can be done using loose-leaf.
- **You will be required to showcase your learning** in a final **Portfolio**. This will be a collection of work that will demonstrate what you've learned. The **Portfolio will be a separate binder** designated for final products. Your Portfolio can be kept in the classroom as opposed to your locker.  
The Portfolio is required to be **fully complete** by a **designated end time of the semester**.  
**ANY and ALL WORK** (this will include keeping draft copies & pre-writing/pre-thinking copies) that you do in this course **NEEDS TO BE KEPT UNTIL THE END OF THE COURSE** for the purposes of the Portfolio.  
This means **you will need to be responsible** for gathering and keeping your work together.
- **Independent Reading will be required as part of this course.** You will be reflecting on your own progress with the Independent Reading component.

## Course Requirements

- **Regular Attendance** is required to demonstrate a consistent and sustained achievement of the outcomes necessary to earn the credit for this course. *Regular attendance is defined by our school attendance policy; see Student Handbook.*
- **Due Dates:** It becomes very challenging to track your progress throughout the semester and to understand your true abilities if work is not completed. In order for me to give feedback in a timely manner and to assess fairly, **due dates must be respected**. If due dates are consistently **not adhered to**, you will **receive an Incomplete at the reporting periods**. Once a reporting period has passed; no previous work will be accepted.  
Parents and/or the principal will be contacted if you are not meeting deadlines.  
Incomplete work could result in course failure.
- **Attendance and Active Participation** are keys to success. **Evaluation** is based not only on the **work you complete** but also on **Participation** which includes **(1) Attendance (2) Quality of Preparation (3) Oral Contributions and (4) Other Activity or Lesson-Based Requests**.

## Classroom Rules & Expectations

1. Come to class **Prepared** with a **Notebook or Loose-Leaf, Pens/Pencils, a Binder** to keep your work safe and organized.
2. You will need **Your Own Markers /Coloured Pens or Pencil Crayons / Highlighters** for this course.  
**Covid restrictions** prevents you from sharing; therefore, it is imperative you have your own supplies.  
**Coloured markers, etc will be a requirement** for usage in completing work for this course. These materials are **Required** to be brought for **EVERY** class.
3. **Laptops** given to you by the school division **will be required to be with you at ALL times**. They are now part of the requirement of bringing laptops to class (both for RIT and ELA).  
**Use the technology** in a **respectful manner** and use laptops for **academic purposes only** in class.
4. **Commit** to making the classroom a **safe space**. This means being **respectful** of the opinions, ideas, culture, etc. of other members of the class, whether you agree with them or not.  
**Be respectful** of and to the **property of others** and **within this classroom**.
5. **Respect peers right to learn** and work within a safe school environment. This means **minimize** distractions and time wasted.
6. If you are **Absent** from class, **you are responsible** for **finding out** what you **missed** (at an appropriate time ) and catching up on missed work.
7. If you are **Late 3 times** for class, it will be considered **an unexcused absence**. You are expected to be in class when the bell rings, not after it rings. Guardians will be notified after 5 and 10 unexcused absences.
8. Please ensure that your **Internet User Agreement** has been signed to allow you access to the computer.

**Your First Assignment: Due Fri. Sept. 10, 2021.**

Please take this course outline home to your parents/guardians, read over the entire outline together, and then have your parents/guardians sign below, indicating that they have read the outline. Should they have any initial comments or questions for me, they may add these to the lower portion of the page. Return this signed paper to class to Mrs. Grimstead.

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**Reading is Thinking 10S Course Outline**

- I have read the Reading is Thinking 10S course outline and I am familiar with the **Classroom Expectations and Course Requirements.**
- I understand the Reading is Thinking is a course building off of and developing further skills with the English Language Arts framework and that students receive a “**mark**” of **Complete or Incomplete based off of Participation in Class Activities, Discussions, Observations, and Completion of Work Tasks.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_