

COURSE NUMBER:	515
COURSE TITLE:	Individualized Reading
COURSE LENGTH:	Semester, One Credit
PREREQUISITE:	Successful completion of Language Arts 9
GRADE LEVEL:	10, 11 or 12

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to improve students' vocabulary and reading rate, and to provide them with different reading strategies for different types of reading. Students will spend the majority of class time reading from books of their choosing. In addition, students will participate in structured reading exercises and vocabulary building exercises. Students who desire more time for recreational reading or who want to become better and faster readers will appreciate this class.

COURSE RATIONALE:

Reading well is key to success in high school, college, the workplace, personal improvement, recreation, and personal correspondence.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

Students choose fiction and nonfiction books to read in (and out of) class. For each book read a brief report is written and submitted. Students will spend at least one hour per period reading independently. In addition, students will work independently on assigned reading comprehension exercises as well as vocabulary work emphasizing the etymology of the English language.

ASSESSMENT:

The grade is based on the number of pages read and is adjusted according to performance on vocabulary tests and in-class structured reading exercises.

CRITICAL OBJECTIVES:

1. to encourage students to make reading a daily habit
2. to increase vocabulary
3. to improve reading comprehension
4. to increase reading rate
5. to develop an understanding of basic English etymology
6. to encourage students to relate what they read to their own lives
7. to encourage a habit of reading for simple pleasure