

Course Syllabus

Course Names: Academic Skills English, Academic Skills Math, Academic Skills Social Studies, Academic Skills Science, Academic Skills Vocations

Teacher Name: Mr. Jonathan Smith

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I check my e-mail throughout the day and this method of communication seems to work best for parents and myself. I will answer phone calls after school unless I have a meeting. If you leave a message, I will be happy to return your call within 24 hours.

Course descriptions:

Special Education Academic Skills classes are designed to meet the needs of each student as stated in their Individual Education Plan through the use of sensory therapy, assistive technology, visual, auditory, and kinesthetic application for daily lessons. The goal of the Academic Skills Special Education classes is to develop each student's independence to its full potential for daily living and for needs after high school. In the Academic Skills program we strive to develop an individualized transition plan that will meet every student's interests and define an appropriate path for vocational needs following the student's high school career.

Academic Skills Math: This course includes math organizational skills and functional survival skills for everyday living for maximum independence and success in the community setting. Student learning will have emphasis in basic math concepts and independent living and survival in the workplace. Focus will include checking/savings accounts, budgets, money and time management.

Academic Skills English: Students will learn to read functional text, spelling, and learn vocabulary needed for basic independent living. Students will develop the

skills to create their own resume, cover letters, thank you note, and letter of introduction. Learning basic reading skills will help students to take drivers tests, read menus, and cooking instructions.

Academic Skills Social Studies: Students will develop knowledge and skills in the areas of the United States, Arizona, and World History as described in a student's Individual Education Plan and Arizona State Standards. The classroom environment is designed to enhance the behavioral/personal adjustment competencies necessary to provide a successful educational experience.

Academic Skills Science: Students will develop knowledge and skills in the areas of Biology and General Science as described in the student's Individual Education Plan and Arizona State Standards. The classroom environment is designed to enhance the behavioral/personal adjustment competencies necessary to provide a successful educational experience.

Academic Skills Vocations: Students will develop an understanding of the value of post high school occupation and the differences in careers. Students will also participate in their own career interest inventory and develop strategies to entering into the workplace.

These courses align with the Arizona Common Core Standards at each child's individual functioning level. A comprehensive list of the common core standards can be viewed on the Arizona Department of Education web site.

Required Materials: Students are expected to have the following materials daily.

1. Pencil
2. Paper
3. Student I.D's

Assignment Requirements:

1. Late work is accepted with a reduction in points.
2. Assignments must be headed with first and last name, class period, date and assignment.

Grading System:

Grades are based on each student's individual performance on goals developed within their individual education plan. My objective is for each student to obtain individual success. If a student is not progressing on a particular goal, the IEP team will reconvene and incorporate additional accommodations or refine the goal in order for the student to obtain mastery and success.

A=90-100% B=80-89% C=70-79% D=60-69% F=0-59%

Classroom Management Plan: Students are expected to follow all school rules, policies and procedures. This includes attendance and tardy policies.

Classroom Rules:

- Respect the people, equipment, and furnishings of Mr. Smith's room
- Be polite and courteous at all times
- Be on time and prepared
- Observe all rules in the student handbook
- Listen the first time instructions are given

If a student chooses to break a rule:

- 1st time: warning
- 2nd time: student writes action plan, parents are called
- 3rd time: student is referred to office, parents are called
- Serious incident: student is sent immediately to the office with a referral.

Rewards:

- Positive notes home
- Free time
- Lunch drawing
- Snacks/treats (from an approved lists of foods from district office)
- Other rewards to be decided upon by the class

Classroom computers:

Students may use the classroom computers after a computer agreement has been signed and filed. Students may do research online and type assignments. Computers may be used as a reward after assignments are completed with teacher approval.

Absences:

It is of the utmost importance to have regular attendance in order to not miss instruction.

Passes:

Students will be provided with passes when instruction is completed in order for the learning environment to maintain an educational focus for student success.

Extra Credit:

Extra credit may be made available when announced. However, extra credit is NOT given to individuals to improve grades as a result of failure to turn in work.

Movies:

Occasionally, a movie may be shown if the content is tied to the curriculum. Movies will have a 'G' or 'PG' rating only.

Please read, sign, detach and return.

I have read and understand the expectations, content and policies for this course.
I also give consent for my child to see a 'G' or 'PG' movie in the classroom as it
directly aligns with the curriculum or as a reward movie on a quarterly basis if
appropriate.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Your e-mail address: _____

Your home phone number: _____

Mother's work phone number: _____

Father's work phone number: _____

Additional notes/messages: