

## The Course Selection Process

The information below has been published in the Program of Studies for a number of years. It is the product of our CLEAR (Course Level Expectations Analysis and Revision) group, a volunteer committee that meets on this topic.

**As students move into the Course Selection process, teachers will thoroughly review and apply the guidance detailed below with respect to course recommendations. As a practice, they will apply the following:**

- **Clarity around language defining the levels**
- **Consider student characteristics: knowledge vs. application**
- **Employ best practices in communication**

**The following information is designed for parents and students in selecting appropriate course levels. Please note that these expectations are intended to provide clear examples of general course level guidelines. Additional expectations of students may be required by individual teachers. *\*Student expectations as identified in this table serve to work in coordination with the 21<sup>st</sup> century learning expectations as outlined in North Reading High School's statement of Core Values and Beliefs.***

### Standard expectations for all students:

Student is organized and prepared for class with proper materials and all necessary assignments.

Student is able to read, comprehend, and interpret material that is at or near grade level.

Student's writing is generally organized and focused; student is able to write essays of varying length; the writing also exhibits an appropriate knowledge of grammar, mechanics, and vocabulary.

Student exhibits problem solving skills in order to pursue the answer to a challenging idea even when the solution is not obvious on first try.

Student is an active member and self-advocate within the classroom community.

### In addition to expectations for all students, Honors level course expectations are:

Student takes an active role in class discussions on a daily basis.

Student possesses motivation and work-ethic to be in a high-level class and manage a demanding workload both in and out of class.

Student demonstrates a high level of critical thought in order to analyze and interpret complex texts and problems

Student is able to demonstrate the ability to be an independent reader, thinker, and conduct independent research.

### In addition to expectations for all Honors level courses; Advanced Placement level course expectations are:

Student possesses the intellectual curiosity and self-motivation to be in a highly rigorous, college-level class.

Student has the ability to handle multiple assignments at the same time.

Student possesses and demonstrates a thorough understanding of content from pre-requisite courses and is able to manage a demanding work load both in and out of class.

Student completes summer assignments prior to the start of the course.