

EN07 - Seventh Grade English Fall Semester 2008

Teacher: Mr. David Paap
Room: 317

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Dear Students and Parents:

Course Description:

This course is designed to help students gain a greater understanding of the English Language by exploring literary elements, developing their writing skills, and increasing their fundamental concepts of English.

Materials:

We will be using a variety of materials from different sources, but we will primarily use *Elements of Literature First Course* published by Holt, Rinehart, and Winston. Students can expect to bring other articles and materials from sources outside of class.

The following materials should be in class EVERY DAY:

- Writing Journal (Composition book – should be left in class)
- Extra paper
- Pen (blue or black ink only) **and** pencil – I will rarely hand out pencils. BRING ONE EVERY DAY!
- Notebook
- Other Material assigned in class

Expectations:

Rules are usually things students should NOT Do. We've had them all our lives. However, at this point in your education I believe there is a certain code of conduct that students should be accountable for. Proper behavior is Mandatory, NOT Optional. These expectations are things students SHOULD Do:

- **Be Respectful**
- **Follow Directions**
- **Accept Responsibility for YOUR Actions**
- **Strive for Excellence**
- **Be Ready to Learn** (NOTE: tardiness will result in loss of participation credit AND may include disciplinary action.)

We will discuss these expectations frequently in class and students will be held accountable for these expectations EVERY DAY. One difference between Rules and Expectations is that the students can expect the same from me as I expect from them. Failure to meet these expectations will result in disciplinary action(s).

Disciplinary Actions are based on what would help modify poor behavior into appropriate behavior. Therefore we will follow the school guide of logical consequences based on each occurrence. Disciplinary Actions may include, but are not limited to, detention, parent phone call, counselor referral, and referral to Assistant Principal. Students will be accountable for their behavior by using a Discipline Log implemented in class.

Attendance Policy:

Every day we are exploring and learning. When you are absent, you lose the opportunity to interact with the class and receive proper instruction. However, I understand that some absences are unavoidable. Students are responsible to obtain the material and assignments they may have missed due to an absence. I will make every effort to be available before or after school to help students catch up on the material, but it is still their responsibility to obtain the material in class following their return to school. Unexcused absences will result in loss of credit for the assignment. All material assigned before the absence is due on the day of return. Students will have an equal number of days they were absent to turn in the make-up work.

Grading Policy:

Students will be graded on an overall point average for the quarter and/or semester. Make-up work will be accepted for full credit for excused absences. Unexcused absences and Late Work will be penalized points for each day the assignment is late. Extra credit may be given at the discretion of the teacher.

I grade on a standard 10% grading scale as follows:

100% - 90%	A	Your grade will include, but not be limited to, Attendance, Participation, Homework,
89.9% - 80%	B	Tests and Quizzes, Journals, Notes, and Presentations. I believe Education is an
79.9% - 70%	C	interactive process, therefore Participation will be Mandatory for students in this
69.9% - 60%	D	class. Participation will include reading, answering questions, responding to Bell
59.9% and below	F	Work, Presentations, Attendance, and Behavior. Participation points will be a large part of the students' grades.

Contacting Mr. Paap:

I believe in an OPEN DOOR policy for both students and parents. This means that if you have any questions or concerns please contact me. Students are encouraged to make an appointment to see me before or after school for additional help. I can be reached at the phone number and email listed above. Please include Student's name as the subject line when sending emails.

I look forward to having a great semester / year with you. Please sign the bottom and return to me as proof you have received this information. Thank you.

– Mr. Paap

By signing below you acknowledge that you have read and received the class syllabus.

PRINT Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____

PRINT Parent Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parent Phone Number: _____

Alt. Number: _____