

AP11: English Language and Composition Classroom Expectations

Instructor: Mr. Rolf M. Gunnar

Classroom: A236

Red Rocks Community College Course: ENG 121

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One on One Conference Availability: Period 1, 7, STAR, Seminar, 2:35 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

Course Objectives:

The purpose of this course is to help students “write effectively and confidently in their college courses across the curriculum and in their professional and personal lives.” (The College Board, *AP[®] English Course Description*, p. 6) The course is organized according to the requirements and guidelines of the current *AP English Course Description*, and, therefore, students are expected to read critically, think analytically, and communicate clearly both in writing and speech.

Required Texts:

Peterson, Linda and John Brereton, eds. The Norton Reader 12th Full Ed, New York: Norton, 2008. (NR)

Shea, Renee H., Lawrence Scanlon, and Robin Dissin Autses. The Language of Composition. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2008. (LOC)

HO: Supplementary handouts supplied by the instructor

Classroom Policies

- While students are not required to take the AP exam, any student who chooses not to take the exam will earn English 11 credit rather than AP English credit on his/her transcript.
- All students must take the practice AP English Language exam on April 17, 2010. The practice exam emulates the actual exam atmosphere, and the score represents a significant portion of their final grades.
- **Homework is due at the beginning of the period.** According to school policy, students who were **absent on the day the work was assigned** must hand it in within two class days of their return for full credit. If I assigned the work **prior to the absence**, it is due within 24 hours of the student's return. A student whose absence **was not excused or due to suspension** must hand in the work on the day of his/her return for any credit. Each major assignment will have two due dates: the first represents full credit; the second represents a maximum grade of C. After the second date has passed, the work receives a maximum grade of F. Because **homework and process** assignments (i.e. rough drafts, etc.) pertain to the lesson of the day, **students earn no credit if they do not submit those assignments on the due date.** The grade book closes at the end of each six-week period; consequently, late work from the previous six weeks will no longer be accepted, resulting in no credit for the assignment. Athletics, extracurricular activities (field trips), and planned absences require submission of assignments **prior** to the scheduled absence for full credit. Therefore, students must make a conference appointment prior to a planned absence. **Students will not pass this course if their work is consistently late,**

or if they submit the bulk of their work toward the end of the semester. Computer issues are not valid excuses for late work. Furthermore, students who have three or more missing assignments will be issued an office referral.

- Successful students will attend class regularly and on time. Students with three or more unexcused absences or tardies will be issued an office referral.
- Successful students will demonstrate skills indicative of quality workers by bringing required materials, completing homework assignments, participating in class discussions, and respecting the opinions of others.
- Successful students will demonstrate accountability by listening closely in class.
- **All final drafts of major written assignments are to be typed or word-processed and must adhere to MLA format unless otherwise specified.**
- Students are **not allowed** to bring food, drinks (except water) into the classroom.
- Students should not block the aisles with backpacks, etc.
- Cell phones **must be turned off** during class time. Any cell phone use during class time may result in disciplinary action.
- **I reserve 20% of a student's grade for attitude, behavior, achievement, attendance and participation.**
- I use the standard grading scale: 90-100 A, 80-89 B, 70-79 C, 60-69 D, 59 and below F. Individual papers are graded on a 0-9 AP scale, the scale used in AP 12.
- Students are allowed three passes per semester for personal reasons. Students may not leave the class for more than 10 minutes.
- The CHS and JCPS conduct code will be strictly enforced including the **Zero Tolerance Policy** concerning cruelty, harassment, excessive teasing, discrimination, violence, and intimidation. Foul language, derogatory remarks, and disrespect toward classmates, teachers and school staff will not be tolerated.
- **Cheating and plagiarism on schoolwork will result in a zero on the assignment and could result in suspension.**
- Lack of respect toward the property of others (including writing on or defacing desks), and disruptive behavior (including talking out of turn) could result in removal from the classroom and a referral.

Plagiarism Contract

Plagiarism can be defined as submitting another person's ideas, words, images or data without giving that person credit or proper acknowledgement. Plagiarism, a form of academic dishonesty, is tantamount to stealing and will not be tolerated. In order to clarify what constitutes plagiarism, you should be aware that you have committed plagiarism when you:

- use phrases, quotes or ideas not your own;
- paraphrase the work of another even though you may have changed the wording or syntax;
- use facts or data not considered common knowledge;
- submit a paper written for another class (academic dishonesty);
- submit a paper from an essay service or agency even though you may have paid for it (these papers are usually of low quality, so you probably did not get your money's worth);
- submit a paper by another person even though he or she may have given you permission to use it.

You should also note that plagiarism not only encompasses written work, but also computer data, research, musical scores, video programs and visual arts.

Plagiarism is a serious issue, especially in an academic environment. Teachers must be able to rely on the integrity of a student's work in order to maintain a climate for successful learning. Plagiarism reflects on character; therefore, you should diligently avoid inadvertent plagiarism. When you are unsure if acknowledgement is needed, ask your teacher. The penalties for blatant plagiarism include loss of all credit for the assignment with no opportunity to rewrite. This may significantly lower your final grade. Furthermore, plagiarism, a form of cheating, can result in suspension according to the Jefferson County Public Schools conduct code. We will discuss methods for avoiding plagiarism as the school year progresses.

I, _____, am aware of the serious nature of plagiarism and will not intentionally use or submit someone else's work without acknowledgement. Furthermore, I will not misrepresent someone else's work as my own.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

I have read this contract and understand the consequences of plagiarism.

Parent/Guardian _____ **Date** _____