

Mrs. Blackwell
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Course Requirements
English 98

Each and every day you should walk into this classroom with a positive attitude and a willingness to work hard to become the most successful student you can be. In this classroom I will expect you to adhere to the **Expectations for Behavior**:

1. *BE PREPARED* - You must have your textbooks, agenda, binder, writing implements and assignments that are due when you enter the classroom.
2. *BE POLITE* -Students have a right to learn, and teachers have a right to teach. Therefore, keep classroom interruptions to a minimum. Use your snack and lunch break to use the restroom or go to your locker.
3. *BE ETHICAL AND RESPONSIBLE* - Do your own work, and complete it on time. Make certain you know what your assignments are and when they are due. Update and check your calendar and agenda daily. Make sure you prepare for quizzes and tests. If you are absent for a test or quiz, make up them up within the allotted one-week time frame.
4. *DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT BRINGING ANY OF THESE INTO THE CLASSROOM*: No hats, hoods, gum, food, CD players, IPODS, MP3's, cell phones, or anything else that would interfere with learning.

Attendance

There is no substitute for being in class. Try to keep absences to a minimum. It is your responsibility to find out about missed assignments. Tests and quizzes must be made up at lunch or after school. Always check the assignment board to see what days you may make up work during lunch; you may make an appointment to make up tests after school.

Homework

1. I believe homework gives students an opportunity to practice those skills they have learned in class. You will usually correct your own homework; this will enable to see how your are doing, ask questions, and better prepare yourself for the quizzes, tests or projects which will be collected and graded.
2. You will receive **100** points at the beginning of each quarter as part of your homework grade. These points will be added to your grade at the end of the quarter as long as you complete every homework assignment. Each time you come to class without your **completed** homework assignment, you will lose **five** points.

Grades

1. At the end of each quarter, I add up the total points you have earned and divide by the total possible points to get a percentage, which will then be converted to a letter grade. Major assignments such as tests, projects and essays are usually worth about 100 points. Free writes, quizzes, and group activities and discussions fall into the 10-20 point range.
2. There will be very few opportunities to earn extra credit, as I believe your grade should reflect how well you have successfully completed the course requirements. Do not ask me for extra credit assignments to take the place of the class work you did not complete.

English Notebook Requirements

Organization is the key to success! Therefore, you will be expected to keep all class work in an organized binder with labels for the following sections:

Writing
Grammar
Literary Terms
Vocabulary
Literature

Writing Portfolio

All *completed and graded* writing assignments will be kept in the classroom in individual portfolios. You will evaluate your writing portfolio at the end of each semester for a grade.

Suggestions for Success!!!

Have a special section in your notebook (such as the front pocket) for **completed** homework assignments. If you get in the habit of putting your homework in the same place, you will not lose valuable time searching for it when I do a homework check.