

The course is set up in line with the Pa Common Core curriculum standards. This means that each quarter we will focus on 3 themes that will enable students to work towards improving their sense of character and citizenship. These themes include

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| 1. Perception and reality | 2. Resilience and uncertainty |
| 3. Attitude and Obstacles | 4. Chivalry and rebellion |
| 5. Turbulence and Tranquility | 6. Creation and destruction |

Required materials for this class:

1. Something to write with everyday. We will be doing some form(s) of writing everyday.
2. A textbook. One will be provided to take home and extras are available for use in class. The textbook is signed out at the start of the semester and signed in at the end. Books not returned are reported as lost and billed to the student. A new textbook costs \$65.00.
3. A notebook. A 3-5 Subject notebook is preferred. If you cannot get a notebook please let me know and we'll make arrangements.
4. A flash drive. This is not required but may be useful for projects and computer-based assignments.

General rules and expectations of class:

1. This is a heavy discussion-based class. Everyone will be expected and required to both speak and listen to others. All students will be assigned to a discussion group that they will meet with periodically to work on tasks and assignments together. Discussions are partly graded on every student contributing in a respectful and friendly manner. Bullying, harassment, non-participation will not be acceptable. Every student in a group will be assigned a job they will be responsible and graded on for that discussion.
2. To provide students with opportunity to become independent readers for entry to a post secondary program or occupation, most reading will need to be done outside of class. This is a major component of the curriculum. Nearly every reading assignment will be followed by a short 3-5 question quiz to check for reading. It is suggested students ask or look on the class website to read ahead. Reading quizzes are multiple choice and check if students did the reading.
3. Students who are absent one day are given one day from their return to make up any quizzes and work missed. Students who are absent multiple days in a row must make arrangements and schedule when the work will be completed. Students who do not take responsibility for missed work will be given no credit for the work, receiving 0 points.
4. All papers must be set up in the correct MLA set up. Papers that do not follow this format will be returned and must be resubmitted as late. The MLA format will be discussed and reviewed in class as well and being posted on the class website.
5. The most important rule of this class is for everyone to value each other's time, materials, and opinions. Students who fail to do this will be warned, followed by attempted family contact, followed by office referral and a possible conference.

I, _____, have read and understand the expectations and grading of the class. I also have had the opportunity to discuss and question the rules and procedures of the class