

GRADING POLICIES

Rigor, quality work, responsibility, and respect are themes that will reappear throughout our year together. Assignments are purposeful, and students should respond in a thoughtful, careful manner. **Late work** will only be accepted with conditional approval due to extenuating circumstances **or** with one of the two late passes provided per semester. Late passes will not be accepted for assignments that have already been returned to students. If you plan to use a late pass, your work must be turned in **before** the graded work is returned to your peers. Attach the late pass to the assignment before turning it in.

Students will be assessed through a variety of methods including, but not limited to, classwork, homework, essays and other writing skills, tests and quizzes, projects and verbal assessments like inner/outer circle discussions. We use a point system that weights each assignment according to its importance and difficulty.

TESTING POLICY

Students are responsible for making up any missed test or quiz. Missed exams are to be taken upon return to school when possible and if not, after school at a time that is convenient for us both. Students must notify Ms. Magnetta of their intent of taking the test so that an appointment can be arranged. Failure to make up the exam within the window of time allotted by school board policy will result in a zero. As always, it is the student's responsibility to initiate making up any work due to absences. All make-up exams may be entirely essay, or any form of test different from the original.

CELL PHONE POLICY

While in class, it is expected that students be fully focused; thus, no cell phones are allowed during class unless otherwise stated.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Cheating will not be tolerated. Students must do their own work. All work that copied or influenced by another source (i.e. textbook, fellow student, the Internet, cheat sheets, text messages, etc.) will earn ZEROs and the circumstances will be noted on Pinnacle. Again, all work completed for this class must be generated individually, unless directed otherwise by Ms. Magnetta. Pompano Beach prides itself on preparing students for the rigors of college. It is therefore imperative that students do their own work so that they learn content accurately. The faculty expects academic integrity; therefore students must abide by the PBHS Honor Code when they complete assignments, tests, quizzes, projects, and all other work, both in class and out. Every violation of the Honor Code will result in consequences.

SUGGESTIONS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS:

- a. **Be in class every day and prepared for learning.** You are expected to be in your seat and ready to learn with pen or sharpened pencil in hand when the bell rings. Immediately after the bell, every student must record the posted essential questions verbatim. Do not take longer than 3-4 minutes for this task. This is the expectation at the *start* of every class, every day. (Note: Sometimes, there may be reading or partner activities for students to complete at the start of class instead of EQs.)
- b. **Record the answers to the daily Essential Questions (EQs).** This is perhaps the most important process to understanding each day's lesson and its purpose and goals. To answer them, pay close attention to the verbal and nonverbal clues given throughout the day's lesson. The answers to the EQs will be tested. Be sure that each day's EQs are dated/titled so that you can find them easily. Because the pacing of the class varies daily, sometimes EQs go unanswered; any EQs not answered will be addressed the next day. PPBe fluid.
- c. **Be an active learner.** You are expected to listen carefully in class, take adequate notes and participate in class discussions. Five behaviors maximize your ability to pay attention and therefore your ability to learn. These are encapsulated by the acronym

SLANT:

Sit up.

Listen and lean forward.

Ask and answer questions.

Nod your head.

Track the speaker.

- d. Complete each reading assignment and its accompanying work.** You are expected to complete **ALL** reading assignments *prior* to class sessions. Otherwise you will be unable to keep up with the pace and level of class discussions and activities which are designed to *enhance* and *deepen* student understanding of the content, not repeat it. It is not possible to “cover” all material that is to be tested in class. Much information will have to be obtained by students independently. There is no substitute for student knowledge. Turning in notes or outlines from on-line sources or from any other unauthorized source is unacceptable. In order to learn the content, YOU must read the text and take YOUR OWN notes in YOUR handwriting and language. In other words, DO THE WORK required. Further, grade and upper level vocabulary is a hurdle on some exams and prevents some students from understanding what the test questions are asking. Avoid that by using a dictionary every time you do not understand a word. (FYI: Because my eyes strain easily, I prefer student work to be written in pen or typed. Thanks!)
- e. Check the classroom website DAILY for assignments.** Because all homework assignments and their directions are posted on my website, class time will not be used for this purpose unless necessary or prompted by a student for clarification. *If you have Internet issues, it is your responsibility to figure a solution and do the work required by the given deadline. This is also true for printer problems.* One suggestion I have is for you to call a reliable classmate and ask for help.

Class Website <http://teacherweb.com/FL/PompanoBeachHighSchool/Magnetta>
(Access your homework via the honors tab at the bottom of the menu list to the left)

In case of absence, it is your responsibility to find out what was missed. Classmate phone numbers:

f. Work without distractions. Be wary of distractions, especially text and social media. Evidence indicates that reading and responding to a text message distracts a person from his/her task at hand and may result in a 15-minute interruption for each incident. These types of distractions lengthen the time you spend on homework nightly. Get in the habit of turning off your phone and working in a quiet and tidy spot. A quiet environment helps you learn the content *the first time* you read and record information. When learning is done right, it should also decrease your study time for tests as well.

g. Keep an organized “Interactive” notebook. The purpose of the Interactive Spiral is to enable the students to be creative, independent thinkers and writers. Spirals will be used for class notes as well as for other activities in which students will be asked to express their own ideas and process the information presented in class. This spiral notebook will be used for a variety of activities to preview learning, process new content to demonstrate understanding and record and express all of their well-considered ideas. Bring your notebook to class daily.

CLASS SUPPLIES

- One spiral-bound, college ruled, 1 subject notebook with durable cover and pockets, 11 x 8 ½ inch (NO substitutions on size please)
- Small personal stapler with staples, post-it notes, highlighters, colored pencils (for mapping, etc)

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

The policy set forth by the School Board of Broward County will be followed. All students, faculty and staff will be treated with respect at all times and all bullying behavior will be reported and met with consequences as described in the Broward School’s Code of Conduct. **Respect yourself and respect others.**

TOPICS TO BE STUDIED THIS YEAR (the short list...we will study additional topics as well)

Historical Inquiry and Analysis

Medieval European Civilizations (Greece, Rome, Byzantium and more)

Islamic, Meso and South American, East Asian, South Asian and African Civilizations

Renaissance, Reformation, Scientific Revolution, and Age of Exploration

The Enlightenment and Its Impact

Western and Non-Western Nationalism, Industrialization and Imperialism

WWI and WWII and their Impacts on the Global Balance of Power

Post World War II and Cold War Eras

Major Trends Beginning in the 20th Century