English 12CP 2017-2018

Ms. Paxton

This class is designed to improve understanding of the English language, including reading and writing skills and appreciation of literature. It is meant to prepare you for college and will require homework most nights. Please be prepared for that.

Contact information:

I prefer to be contacted by email at: alisha.paxton@jordandistrict.org

However, if needed I can be contacted by phone: (801) 256-5100 or in person, before school between 6:30 and 7:15. Please do not disturb my classes. If you need to contact me during the day, email is best. If I have time, I will reply. If not, I will once my teaching duties conclude.

**SCHOOL POLICIES AND GRADES**

**Attendance** The award of credit in this class is subject to the conditions outline in the Bingham High School Attendance Policy. You are expected to be in class whenever possible. If you are 10- 20 minutes late, you will get a Way Late, which counts as an absence. If you are more than 20 minutes late, please check in at the attendance office. Note that we often begin class with a quiz or writing exercise. Such quizzes can be made up only before school and only within one week of the tardy. The writing assignments are still due on the original due date. If you need the prompt, please ask directly after class or before school the next day or via email.

**Citizenship Credit** In order to create and maintain a positive learning environment, students are expected act appropriately in the classroom and not interfere with others’ learning. Students not complying with classroom rules may face a lower academic grade.

**Academic Credit** The academic grade is based on total cumulative points earned on tests, homework, projects, presentations, journals etc. The percentage breakdown is as follows:

B+ 87-89 C+ 77-79 D+ 67-69

A 93-100 B 83-86 C 73-76 D 63-66

A- 90-92 B- 80-82 C- 70-72 D- 60-62 F 59 & below

# Class Disruptions Cell Phones, pagers, cameras, PDAs, video games, CD players, iPods and any other video or music players and all electronic devices are not permitted in class. I will confiscate any prohibited items. If cell phones, iPods, etc., are a continual problem, I will keep the item for an extended time (until school ends for the day) or send them to the office. Listening to me during instruction time may be rewarded with the opportunity to sit by/work with friends or listening to music during writing time. Such privileges will be revoked if disruptive behavior occurs.

**Dress Code** Please wear appropriate clothing to school. I will enforce the dress code, including the no hats rule. If you are not in compliance, you may be sent to the office to fix it—which is done either by more appropriate clothing being brought from home or wearing scrubs that the school provides.

**CLASSROOM POLICIES**

**Participation** We will be working with groups and partners throughout the year so other students will be counting on you to be prepared and willing to participate.

 Students may be asked to peer review papers and other assignments. This helps to reinforce specific concepts and allow students to learn from each other. Students will be expected to be respectful in these and all activities. Failure to do this will result in loss of privileges in class appropriate to the misbehavior.

# Late Work Assignments are always due at the beginning of class. I DO NOT accept late work. Please make sure to get your homework done on time. This is a college prep class, so I have adopted a policy to prepare students for college.

**Absent Work**  **This applies only to absences *excused* by parental or school authority.** Students have one

class day for each day absent to make up missed work. So, if I assign something Monday that is

 to be turned in on Wednesday, he/she must get it no later than Wednesday and turn it in no later

 than Friday. IT IS THE STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITY TO ASK FOR MAKEUP WORK.

If the student is absent on a day when an assignment, especially a major assignment like an essay, is due, the student MUST EMAIL ME A COPY BY CLASS TIME **AND** BRING IN THE HARD COPY THE NEXT TIME HE/SHE COMES TO CLASS. If students do not have internet access at home, know that resources like the public library have computers for their use. If the assignment is handwritten rather than typed, please scan or take a picture of it and attach it, just like you would a saved file.

It is the student’s responsibility to check the site ([www.paxton-english.weebly.com](http://www.paxton-english.weebly.com)) or see me to know what he or she missed; in addition, students are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to see me ahead of class to collect any materials not available on the site. **If students are truant**, they will not be allowed to make up missed assignments or tests and will receive a 0-TR (no credit).

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**Online** Assignment descriptions and examples will be posted on the website [www.paxton-english.weebly.com](http://www.paxton-english.weebly.com). Check it when you have questions.

**Plagiarism** Don’t plagiarize. Plagiarism is theft of another’s ideas and work. It also robs students of the opportunity to think. I expect all material to be original and in no manner copied, downloaded, or “borrowed” from any friend, colleague, book, article, online source, etc. Plagiarism includes direct quotes, summaries, ideas, references etc. of another document or any resource. **Any and all sources used for this class must be correctly referenced (MLA style). Failure to comply with this rule may result in a CH (no credit).**

**Extra Credit** I very rarely give extra credit—and never to just one student. I sometimes give opportunities to all students, whether it’s memorizing Shakespeare or finding vocab words in real life, but I never give special extra credit projects. I recommend focusing on exceling on assigned work. Total extra credit points will boost the grade only to the next grade step (e.g. C- to C or B+ to A-) so students should not rely on it to get an A.

**Formatting** Format all assignments should be turned in with the following specifications:

* Calibri 11, Cambria 11 point font, or Arial 10 pt font
* 1 inch margins
* Double spaced
* Name and period in left corner
* Stapled
* Pages numbered

Together, I believe that we can make this a fun, exciting and successful year.

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