

Name _____

Date _____

Course Goals

Every day in our class is built around each student having learned or practiced the tools and skills needed to become one or more of the following:

1. A more critical thinker
2. A stronger reader
3. A more thoughtful writer
4. A stronger speaker
5. A more attentive listener

If we have not done one of these five things every day in our classroom, we have not been working hard enough.

Expectations

I am a respectful adult who is passionate about teaching you to be a better version of yourself. When you are respectful students in my class, then I can be the best version of myself. That said, you are always expected to:

- Enter class on time and get to work right away.
- Raise a silent hand when you want to speak.
- Be respectful to others and the classroom.
- Remain seated unless I tell you otherwise.
- Follow my directions immediately.
- Participate and try your best.

Assessment and Grades

Your grades in this class are calculated by a combination of your scores on the assessments below.

Assessment	Description
In-Class Tasks and Participation	Classwork that is completed daily. You will be checked on completion and quality of assignments.
Homework Assignments	Work that you will be asked to complete at home.
Formative Assessments	Includes exit tickets and quizzes completed during class.
Summative Assessments	Longer projects usually completed over a period of time in class and at home and in-class tests.

Extra Help

If you are having difficulty with the material, have personal questions or concerns, or need advice, please ask me for help. I would be glad to meet with you outside of class. I am normally available for extra help before or after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Homework Policy

You will receive full credit for homework assignments only if they are handed in on the correct due date. Late assignments will be accepted for partial credit for up to a week after the due date. Anytime afterward, homework will *not* be accepted.

Contacting Me

I welcome your communication with me via email, but please keep in mind that I am your teacher and be mindful of the way in which you address me. Every email needs to have a subject heading and should be formally composed. Address me by my name ("Dear Mr. Scharff..."), state your thoughts and questions clearly, and then sign your first and last name. I will then respond in a timely manner. Please note: I will *not* reply and will ask you to re-write emails without appropriate subject headings, without names, or without evident time or care in composition.

I can be reached at scharffmb@scsk12.org and usually respond fairly quickly.

Supplies

You will need a pencil, a folder, and your agenda/planner for the class.

Additional Notes

Remember that it is essential to our learning for you to respect others, our classroom, and yourself. My class can be challenging, but it is also interesting. If you choose to give your best effort, you will learn a lot and enjoy the course. Good luck.