

Research 2013-2014

Course Syllabus

Texts: various print and electronic sources

Course Description:

Students who wish to succeed in writing in college need the opportunity for intense research instruction. This course will provide students the instruction and practice they need to be prepared for writing beyond high school. This course is loaded to mimic a typical college-level course, but allows for more time and student to teacher assistance to complete major papers. Students will also complete a weekly journaling assignment called "Daybooks" in order to fulfill the need to write for multiple purposes and to expand a student's voice in his/her own writing.

Expectations:

Students will be required to have the following materials in class every day: pen or pencil, notebook, any necessary books, and computer. Students who have missed class need to check with the teacher for assignments. Parents are encouraged to check the Parent Connect site regularly. Homework not turned in at the beginning of the period will not be accepted. Missed quizzes or tests are the student's responsibility and must be made up during tutorial time on the day the student returns to school or within one week if assignment was made while the student was absent. Students AND parents are encouraged to check the website for updates and homework assignments: <http://mrsingramrocks.blogspot.com>.

Plagiarism: Any instance of plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment. No makeup assignments will be given. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to: copying as little as four words of someone else's writing and claiming it as your own (by not using quotation marks and citations in the correct places). Students who write documents *for* other students are also participating in plagiarism by willingly allowing another student to claim credit for that work. That student will also receive a zero for the assignment.

Grading:

The following weights will apply to the final grades for this course, and a final Paper and exam worth 25% of the semester grade will be required of all students. Plagiarism of any kind (partial, whole or accidental) will result in a zero for any assignment found to be plagiarized.

Quizzes 15%

Homework 15%

Papers 50%

Test 20%

As a result of these weights, if a student fails a paper, it is very difficult to improve that grade. Students are cautioned to pay close attention to final drafts of papers submitted for grades.

This course uses the school-wide grading scale.

Course Design:

This will be a weighted, writing intensive performance based course. Students will complete daily work in rhetoric in addition to completing five complete research papers: two papers in APA (4 and 5 pages each), two papers in MLA (6 and 8 pages each), and the final paper of ten pages may be in the style of the field in which the student is interested in studying.

Topics Covered: (included but not limited to)

Choosing and narrowing a topic

Taking good research notes

Formal outlining

Plagiarism

Using quotations

APA, MLA

Conventions of the English language