

and Research, College Prep

T. Barnes, Room B-128

This elective course is designed for students who want to become better writers, especially in the type of writing that is expected in college. Most college writing is directly connected to reading, so reading will be an equally important component of this course. Students who aren't really committed to developing as readers and writers should probably postpone this course until they are. There are other elective courses that might match your present interests better.

Different teachers of this course will structure it differently. However, thoughtful reading and writing will certainly be central in all the sections. In preparation for college, I will stress three major types of writing: analysis, synthesis, and argument. Some of the assignments will require research; others will rely more on personal experience and or interaction with one or more texts. Students should strive to adapt to a variety of reading and writing assignments and to enter into constructive class discussions.

Composition and Research: Guidelines and Expectations, Fall, 2010, Mr. Barnes

Materials

Be sure you have the following in class every day: any texts specified for that day, your notebook (with all handouts and assignments in order), plenty of paper, and a pencil and pen.

Procedures

Please come into class quietly, get any materials you need, and quickly prepare to work.

Participate actively, thoughtfully, and constructively in all activities.

Show respect for all your classmates and teachers.

Please do not talk or make noise when I ask for quiet or am speaking.

Return books and other materials to their proper places at the end of class.

Keep all of your work, and put it in the proper place.

Do not write on or deface any materials or equipment.

Please don't leave class not understanding an assignment.

There should be no food or drink visible in class.

es; we are told to confiscate them.

If you know you're going to miss school, tell me as soon as possible and ask me for assignments before the absence; and, after any absence, check with me after class about work you've missed. It's your responsibility to find out about assignments and to make them up quickly. All missed work should be made up as soon as possible and definitely within 10 class days. Do not interrupt class about make-up work.

Tardies

Dorman has a definite sequence of consequences for tardiness. If you arrive after the tardy bell without a note, you are tardy.

Misbehavior

Dorman also has a strong disciplinary policy that is enforced. Punishments escalate with the frequency or seriousness of the offense.

Evaluation and Grades

The most important part of this course is careful reading and thoughtful writing. Remember that reading and listening, the crucial receptive arts, are basically invisible; you must show what you are thinking and learning through your writing, speaking, and other modes of expression. Your grade for each term will be determined as indicated below. Each term counts 45%, and the exam 10%.

40% - tests, compositions, & projects (Be sure you understand the task and the criteria.)

30% - classwork/homework/quizzes on the films (which reward attentive watching and listening)

30% - participation (thoughtful, consistent, & constructive involvement in all activities; not sleeping; following directions; not distracting anyone)

Assignments are due on the dates assigned; there will be substantial penalties for late major assignments, generally one letter grade per day. Homework may not be turned in late. (In the event of a personal or family emergency that prevented you from completing your work, bring a note from a parent.) Take pride in your work, learn from each assignment, and keep developing your understanding of film and its relationship to our world. Your attitude and effort are the most important factors in your education. I hope you will aspire to do your best, even if the results aren't always what you hoped for. Keep making the connection between the present and your long-term goals, and maintain a healthy ambition to learn first and earn grades second.



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On: Composition and Reasearch, College Prep.
Date: 8-12-2010

I look forward to working with your son or daughter this year in **Composition and Reasearch**. He or she has a set of guidelines and a list of possible films, and I would appreciate your taking time to read these and to let me know if you have any concerns. Please contact me anytime you feel the need. You may e-mail me at barnestw@spart6.org or call me at 582-4347, extension 2128; this contact information is also on the DHS website at www.dormanhigh.org. Please sign below to indicate that you have seen the attached guidelines, and have your son or daughter return this form to me. Thank you.

Student's Name: _____ Class Period: _____ Phone #: _____

A Parent's Signature: _____ e-mail: _____