

Re: Classroom Policies

Date: August 20, 2008

Grading:

1. Homework assignments are posted on the side board at the beginning of each week.
2. Often, these assignments are readings due later in the week or next week.
3. Students are to read the book “like they are reading a novel.” Then, a **brief** set of notes are encouraged. In some instances, written notes will be required. Note taking skills are taught in class. (These notes are required for all Gettysburg Study Group students.)
4. Grading Categories and weights:
 - A. Chapter Tests: 35% (Usually 3-4 per quarter)
 - B. Projects and Quizzes: 35% (varied)
 - C. Homework: 20% - minimum five per quarter
 - D. Classroom Department: 10% (attentive, answers questions directed to individual students – once per week)
5. Comprehensive, written study notes are encouraged for tests and quizzes. All students handing in written study receive extra credit at the end of the marking period.

Class room management and teaching style:

1. Students do not have to ask to go to the bathroom, sharpen pencils, etc.
2. Students are expected to be on time to class.
3. Students are expected to be prepared for class. This usually involves having your readings completed, and a notebook open on your desk after the bell rings to start the period.
4. Students should be respectful to others.
5. Trust and honesty form the basis of all my policies in class.
6. Classroom teaching uses a variety of techniques ranging from Socratic dialogue, lecture, class projects, student –centered group work, oral reports, and teacher-directed lessons.
7. Use of audio-visual materials helps to reach those students who are visual learners. I am especially of aware and sensitive to using visuals in a classroom lesson.
8. Hand-outs are often used as a guide for each lesson. (See lesson plans for an example.)
9. Students are told to inform me when homework is not completed. Extensions are granted. Honesty is expected, here.

Curriculum:

Curriculum content is available on-line at the DODEA website for all parents.

- Grade 7 – World Geography
 - World Geography to Include:
 - General concepts of economics
 - Concepts of economics applied to both the United States and World Regions
 - General study of government
 - Government studies applied to the United States and World Regions
 - General understanding of history
 - Historical concepts applied to the United States and World Regions
 - Anthropology, Psychology, and Culture Studies – Using all the social sciences for understanding World Geography

- Grade 8 – United States History
 - What is social studies?
 - United States Foreign Policy
 - The Industrial Revolution
 - Slavery and the Civil War/Reconstruction and Beyond
 - Compromises and Slavery – Causes
 - To Be A Slave
 - The Civil War
 - Reconstruction and Segregation
 - Immigration/Herstory
 - United States Economic History
 - Gilded Age
 - Progressive Era
 - Great Depression
 - Wars of the Twentieth Century
 - Spanish-American War
 - World War I
 - World War II
 - Korean War
 - Vietnam War

Other:

1. There is no student participation grade. I recognize that many students are too often punished for innate shyness.
2. Extra help is available to all students prior to tests. Students are allowed to see the tests in advance.
3. Review sheets are given to all students a least one week prior to a test. The review sheet contains necessary information for success. The review sheets are e-mailed to parents prior to the tests.

4. I am available at home, at night, to all students via my home e-mail. Please see me for my home email address.
5. Pre-writing of essays is encouraged. This gives me an opportunity to critique and help students edit their work.