

Building Strong Roots

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Course Philosophy

Welcome, Partners in Education!

This year, your student will embark on a dynamic English journey focused on developing critical thinking, strong communication, and a lifelong love for learning. Our classroom is a supportive environment designed to foster growth, creativity, and mastery.

Our Shared Goals for Your Student:

- To cultivate confident, articulate communicators.
- To develop analytical and critical thinking skills.
- To foster a deep understanding of diverse texts and ideas.
- To encourage a passion for lifelong learning and expression.

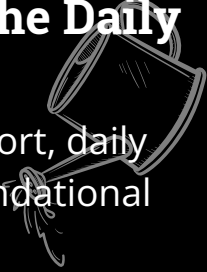


Understanding Your Student's Progress: Our Grading System



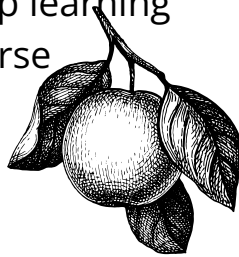
Weekly Grades (The Daily Practice)

- Reflects consistent effort, daily engagement, and foundational skill-building.
- Includes: Participation, daily assignments, homework, class activities, and engagement with feedback.
- Purpose: To build good habits and ensure understanding of core concepts.



Mastery Grades (The Culminating Achievements)

- Demonstrates comprehensive understanding and application of complex concepts.
- Includes: Major essays, projects, quizzes, tests, and semester portfolios.
- Purpose: To showcase deep learning and overall mastery of course standards.

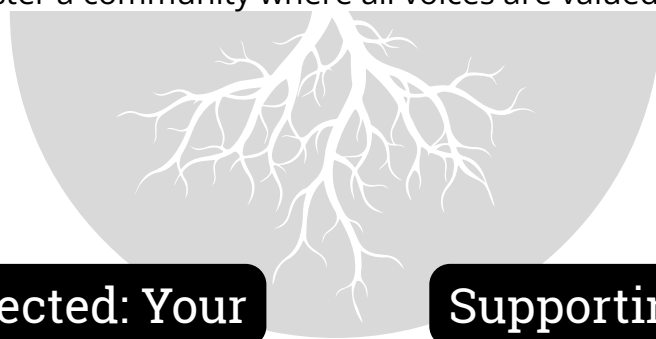


****Weekly completion grades will be contract grades in which students will determine their goal grade each week and complete tasks based on the grade goal. For more information, please see the full course guide.****

****Mastery grade assignments will have opportunities for students to credit for unsatisfactory grades. This helps ensure that students are making progress and that struggling with content doesn't negatively affect their overall average for the course.****

Key Classroom Policies for a Productive Environment

- **Cell Phones:** Phones are to be silenced and put away during class time to maximize focus on learning. We emphasize student choice and responsibility.
- **Academic Integrity:** All work submitted must be original. Plagiarism (copying, AI use, submitting others' work) will result in a re-do of the assignment or alternate assignment to ensure genuine learning.
- **Late Work:** Assignments are due on time to keep pace with learning. I understand that students have a lot going on outside of class, so I design all assignments to be completed in class so that students aren't having to complete work outside of class. If students have reason to need extra time, they should take initiative and request extensions before assignments are due.
- **Classroom Conduct:** Respect for peers, teachers, and the learning environment is paramount. We foster a community where all voices are valued.



Staying Connected: Your Communication Hub

- **Email:** The best way to reach me for questions or concerns.
- **Google Classroom:** All assignments, announcements, and resources are posted here. Please encourage your student to check it daily.
- **Infinite Campus:** Regularly check grades and attendance through our school's online portal.
- In addition to these, I will send out weekly summaries on Friday that breaks down your students productivity in class during the week so that you can see what they are doing on a daily basis.



Supporting Your Student's Journey at Home

- Ask them about what they're reading and writing in English class.
- Encourage consistent review of feedback and revisions on assignments.
- Help them establish a quiet study space and a regular homework routine.
- Remind them to charge their Chromebooks and bring all necessary supplies daily.
- Reach out to me with any questions or concerns – we're a team!

"Thank you for your partnership in making this a successful year!"

