

Syllabus for Humanities 7th Grade

Ms. Joanne Newell & Mrs. Tori Sdao

Mission Statement: We are leaders who follow the Seven Habits.
We set and achieve goals through learning and leading with excellence.
We lead the way by treating others with honor and respect at all times.

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We are available for phone calls and conferences during our planning time. Please call or e-mail prior to a conference so we may add it to our calendar. We have meetings sometimes during that time and we want to make sure we are available.

Our schedule for the 2017-2018 School Year:

7:50-9:30 Humanities

9:30-11:10 Humanities

11:10-11:40 Lunch

11:40-12:10 Advisory

12:10-1:50 Humanities

1:50-2:40 Planning – this is the time for pre scheduled conferences

2:40-3:30 Electives

Course Description: This class is a project based learning environment where we integrate English, language arts, and social studies – specifically Texas history. The purpose of the humanities course is to develop greater understanding of our place in Texas and the world we live in. The more avid the reader, the better the writer, therefore reading will occur in humanities on a daily basis and is encouraged at home. We will read and discuss novels and write in many formats including personal narratives, expository essays, and poetry.

Objective: The objective of this course is to help you meet the Texas State Standards (TEKS) of Texas history, reading and writing while developing reading and writing conventions as well as listening and speaking skills. By providing meaningful learning experiences, learners will develop the necessary skills to master grade-level content and grow as leaders.

Grading Overview: As an integrated humanities class, all assignments are linked and count for credit in both Texas history and English. Assignments are designed to assess the competency in the TEKS. Each assignment will be graded in one or more of the following learning outcomes:

- Agency (self-leadership, being proactive, ownership of personal learning, turning work in on time, striving to be the best version of yourself)
- Knowledge and Thinking (content knowledge and ability to think critically)

- Written Communication (journals, editorials, essays, scripts and other real-world writing)
- Oral Communication (communicating verbally with poise and confidence)
- Collaboration (working well with your teams)

Grades will comprise the following:

- Agency: 15%
- Knowledge and Thinking: 40%
- Written Communication: 15%
- Oral Communication: 15%
- Collaboration: 15%

Specific Grading Policies:

- **Make Up Work:** Students who are absent must present a parent note and/or doctor's note to the registrar, Kellee Albrecht (kalbrecht@lpsfrisco.com). She will enter it in our attendance system to show whether the absence is excused. Students who have an excused absence will be given one day for every day they are absent to turn in missed work. Students who have unexcused absences will not be allowed to turn in make-up work, but are encouraged to complete it for their knowledge and learning.
- Absences should be kept to a minimum. Since we will be spending the majority of our time at school working as a part of a team, attendance is vital. Please do your best to be here each day so that your group does not suffer.
- **Late Grades:** LPS policy dictates that work that is turned in one day late will be assessed a late grade. On the day after an assignment is due, the highest grade that can be earned is a 70%. Any work turned in more than one day late receives a 0.
- **Academic Dishonesty:**
 - Cheating on tests
 - Theft (including photos and/or distribution) and alteration of materials
 - Fabrication: any additional falsification or invention of date, citation, or other authority
 - Unauthorized collaboration
 - Plagiarism: stealing and passing someone else's words or ideas as your own.
 - **Academic Dishonesty Consequences** Any student involved in academic dishonesty will receive a discipline referral and a zero. Any subsequent incident of academic dishonesty will result in administrative action.

Food and Drink Policy: Water in a closed container is the only drink allowed in class. Gum and mints are also allowed, but if we hear the gum being smacked or popped, it must go in the trash can.

Classroom Norms

1. Share the Air
2. Respectful Transparency (use stems like "I wonder" and "I like")
3. Be present
4. Positive Interactions
5. 24 Hour Rule

Classroom Procedures

1. Thumb Up - Yes or agree
2. Thumb Down - No
3. Thumb in the middle - not clear, no opinion. If thumb is down, an explanation must be provided AND there must be a proposed solution. If thumb is in the middle, explain why or ask clarifying questions.