

DISCLOSURE

10th Grade | Room 209 | Preps: 3rd & 9th periods

Mission Statement

Mr. Dewitt’s classes will instill in students effective communication skills to enhance their ability to be successful in interpersonal relationships, postsecondary goals, career leadership, and community contribution.

Books We Will Read

Term 1: **Night**

Term 2: **Tuesdays with Morrie**

Term 3: **Touching Spirit Bear**

Term 4: **The Giver**

Expectations

1. Don't say I can't. It might be more difficult for you than others, but you can do it.
2. Expect Homework of some kind each night.
3. Be willing to go beyond the rubric.
4. Communicate with me about triumphs and struggles.
5. Must not fall behind.

CLASS VALUES:

I like to lean toward being positive. There are so many rules in society, and rightfully so, but what if people just lived by good values? Would there be a need to have so many rules? I don't think so. One of my objectives as a teacher is to instill in students a desire to be a good person rather than just behave well in my classroom. This is why I have created a list of values that if the students have and become, they will be successful in my class and life. I have created my values on the spin of becoming a PANTHER:

P: Be persistent. Do not ever give up. You are amazing.

A: Have a good Attitude. Be willing to smile and enjoy yourself regardless of your circumstance. Find the good about every situation.

N: No Excuses. Own what you do and live with the consequences. Be accountable to yourself and others. You are not a victim, others are not villains, and you are not helpless.

T: Be Teachable. Be willing to learn from me, your peers, your greatest achievements, and even your mistakes. Successful people are always willing to learn and take in wisdom.

H: Be Honest. Do your own work. Do it on time. Have high character. Be the person you want to associate with.

E: Strive for Excellence. Do the very best you can in every situation. Don't just settle for the base requirements. Do your very best. "Success is peace of mind which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best you are capable of becoming" -John Wooden-

R: Be respectful. Respect yourself and others. Treat others as your would want to be treated.

Become a PANTHER!

Classroom Rules:

There are have to be rules. Mine are:

- Show up and be prepared.
- Appropriate Language. All words must build and inspire themselves and others to greatness. Let me do the correcting.
- On Task/In Spot: It is almost impossible to fail my class if you keep this rule.
- Produce your own work: Don't silence yourself or set yourself up for failure by cheating.

Consequences:

Positive:

1. Verbal/written praise.
2. Sit where you want.
3. Possible extra credit.
4. Better Classroom Environment

Negative:

1. Verbal/written reprimand.
 2. Behavior Contract/Meeting with parent.
 3. Administration involvement.
- * I reserve the right to skip any step and go straight to the administration based on the students behavior.
- * If any value,rule,policy, or procedure is broken students will fill out a resolution form.

Procedures and Policies:

Absent: First, make sure that you excuse the absence with the attendance office. Then, if you missed my class, please come and talk to me about it at the end of class or another time of my choosing. Please do not come up to me at the beginning of class when I am trying to get the class started. The best time would be to come in before or after school. You are responsible to get and make up the work. You have three school days from the time you were absent to get me the work or it is considered late.

Tardy: Please be on time. This is one of my pet peeves. It is distracting and unfair to the other students when one shows up late. If you are late please come in quietly and do not disturb others by asking what are we doing. I will get you caught up when there is a break in the instruction.

Electronics (Phones, iPads, iPods, etc): No electronic devices are allowed in class. According to Washington County School District: Any electronic device found on District property is subject to search and confiscation. Please do not make me take them from you and give them to the administration. If there is an emergency, please contact the office. (435)628.5255

Late Work: I detest late work. Yet, at the same time, I want students to do the work because school builds upon itself. Therefore, if a student wishes to turn in something late, they must come into my classroom after school for a half hour per assignment. There will be some assignments that cannot be turned in late. I will communicate that with you.

Make-up Work: If a student or parent feels that the student needs more time to make up work than I am currently giving, then a student, parent, and teacher meeting will be scheduled to come up with a reasonable way to make-up the work.

Participation: We will have a lot of class discussions. It is important that you have an opinion and that you learn to voice that opinion. There will be points in my class awarded based on participation.

Curriculum

I will be following the Utah Core found at: uen.org/core

The core is broken into the following categories:

Reading Literature: We will read a variety of novels this year. We will look at the key ideas and details, craft and structure, Integration of knowledge and ideas, and increase of reading range.

Reading Informational Texts: We will learn much of the same things as literature, but we will do so through non-fiction texts.

Writing: We will write a variety of text types with different purposes such as argumentative, informative, narrative, etc. We will produce a lot clear and coherent writing pieces by learning the writing process. We will research different topics to write developed pieces.

Speaking and Listening: We will learn how to work with others toward a common goal by setting criteria to solve a problem. Students will present findings and creative pieces to their peers in class through a wide range of mediums.

Language: Students will demonstrate a command of conventions and vocabulary.

Grades:

Grading Scale/Citizenship: I will follow the school grading scale for letter and citizenship grades as found in the student handbook. I grade in the following manner:

total points earned/total points possible.

Types of Assignments:

Base Assignment: Students will be given a variety of smaller assignments based on what is taking place in our novel or informational text. Students will be given a variety of assignments that will help evaluate their skills with English language conventions. Being present and on time will be worth points.

Writing: There will be small writing assignments and really big writing assignments. Be prepared to write everyday.

Journals: Some of the best thinking takes place when connecting ideas to your own life. Journal writing gives you a chance to do that. I will post journal prompts to my website over the course of the term. You will need to write a minimum of 150 words per entry in a google doc that you will either share or email to me. I will not share these with others, but I will read it.

Objective Sheets: I will communicate with students what they are going to learn in class at the beginning of each class. They will communicate privately to me whether they understood the material through the responses on the objective sheet.

Tests/Quizzes: Students will be evaluated on their language ability through the use of tests and quizzes. Hint: there will be pop quizzes on the reading selection students should have done as homework. before the current class period.

Extension Assignments: Students will be given a list of assignments that they need to complete by the end of the term in order to receive an "A" grade in class. These assignments will be posted on my class website. You must complete two each term.

I will do my best to communicate these assignments to my class website. Please look at the website first, then come to me with questions you have about an assignment you have missed.