

Course Title: A/S Composition and Literature

Teacher: Mrs. Cosentino 5th hour Conference

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Course Objectives: The program has been designed to assist students who find reading and/or writing a challenge. This course is based around the “Step Up to Writing” program, which features research-based validated strategies and activities which help students proficiently write narrative and expository pieces. Students will engage in reading materials for improved comprehension, and they will demonstrate competent study skills.

Students will write informative, comparative, and persuasive paragraphs and essays, improve literary analysis skills, research and write research papers, and improve reading and listening comprehension, note taking and annotating strategies, and vocabulary improvement.

Materials *Step Up to Writing Secondary Students (Grades 6-12)*

Reading and responding to literature will also be an important aspect of the class. Novels are planned for the year as well as other short stories and videos. The novels may include: *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom and *Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelsem *

*this list is subject to change.

Recommended Materials:

-3-ring binder/folder w/ dividers loose leaf paper

-Writing journal/notebook

-pencils and pens (blue/black and red)

-independent reading book

Rochester Community Schools provides all necessary materials and supplies for curricular classes. Parents who wish to supplement these materials and supplies for their student in this class may consider purchasing the above materials.

Homework/Daily Work:

-Complete and return class work on or before the due date

-Late assignments will be accepted as long as the assignment hasn't been graded and returned

-Students will receive zero points for unexcused absences

Tests and Quizzes:

Tests and quizzes will be given to show what the student has mastered. They will usually be announced prior to the date of the test or quiz.

Grading Scale:

Grades will be based on the RCS grading policy.

A	93%-100%	A-	90%-92%		
B+	87%-89%	B	83%-86%	B-	80%-82%
C+	77%-79%	C	73%-76%	C-	70%-72%
D+	67%-69%	D	63%-66%	D-	60%-62%
E	0%-59%				

1st + 2nd Marking Periods: 80% of semester grade (each quarter is 40% of the total)

3rd + 4th Marking Periods: 80% of semester grade (each quarter is 40% of the total)

Final Exam: 20% of semester grade

Make-up Work

Students who are absent and excused from school will have the opportunity to make up course work. It is the student's responsibility to ask for make-up work.

Respect Code

Schools, staff and school district stakeholders of Rochester Community Schools will:

HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE:

- All individuals are entitled to a physically, emotionally and intellectually safe learning/work environment.

- It is our responsibility to address discriminatory statements and actions.

HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE VALUED:

- All individuals have value.

- Various customs, lifestyles, and backgrounds contribute to an enriched learning environment.

HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE RESPECTED:

- All individuals are entitled to be treated equitably. Education increases awareness and understanding and promotes human dignity.

- Education increases understanding and helps dispel prejudice and discrimination.

- Information and experience lead to understanding and communication.

Rochester Community Schools will provide a district climate that prohibits acts of harassment or bullying, and eliminates prejudice and discrimination.

Classroom Expectations

- All students have the right to work and learn without distraction. No student has the right to infringe on another student's right to learn.

- All borrowed materials must be returned before the end of the hour.

- No food or drink allowed in class with the exception of water.

- Cell phones are allowed at the teacher's discretion during independent work time only.

- Sit in assigned seat.

- Remain on task all hour.

- Be in seat ready to work when the bell rings.

- Be on time.

Consequences:

If you choose to not follow the classroom rules, I will incorporate the following plan:

1st reminder: teacher will state rule being broken and positively state expectation

2nd reminder: teacher will state rule being broken and positively state expectation

3rd reminder: teacher will send student to office, call home, and fill out a disciplinary referral

