GRADING CRITERIA

# Miami Beach Senior High

Mr. Dreeson

I. Attendance

Good attendance is necessary to learn all the required material.

A. Absences

1. It is the student’s responsibility to find out what work was missed when absent and to make that work up. Students must adhere to the school’s absentee policy.

2. Students absent one day must make up tests missed and other work on the day they return to school. Quizzes and tests are to be made up during 2nd lunch or by appointment. If student has been absent two days, then he/she will have two days to make up that test; three or more absences students will have three days to make up work. All work not made up after three school days will receive a “0”.

B. Tardies

1. Students are to be in their seats when the bell rings.

2. Any student entering the classroom after the late bell will be noted in the electronic gradebook and assigned an appropriate in-class penalty.

II. Effort

Your effort grade is based on how hard you try each day.

A. “1” Superior: Performs and prepares at an exceptional level; behavior is impeccable

B. “2” Excellent: Performance, preparation, and behavior are well above what is required and expected

C. “3” Good: Satisfactory performance, preparation, and completion of assignments; may have some minor infractions

D. “4” Needs Improvement: Performance and preparation are inadequate; missing or incomplete assignments; has minor infractions

E. “5” Unsatisfactory: Performance and preparation well below expectations; incomplete and missing assignments; minimal or no effort; has some behavioral infractions

III. Deadlines

Work is due on the prescribed date and class period. Late work is simply unacceptable. Ignorance of assignment parameters is no excuse. If you are unsure of an assignment, log on to my teacher page and check the syllabus. If you are still uncertain of assignment requirements, e-mail directly from the teacher page. Remember, it is your responsibility to turn in assignments on time.

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IV. Conduct

Your conduct grade is very important because good conduct helps you learn.

The following behavior is not acceptable:

A. Personal grooming: no nail polishing, hair combing, brushing, or braiding.

B. No eating or drinking or chewing gum in the classroom.

C. No putting heads down.

D. No loud, disturbing, or rude behavior.

E. No impolite language in the classroom.

All students will give their undivided attention while listening to fellow students speak.

Failure to abide by conduct rules will result in disciplinary action from a minimum of an

after-school detention to an administrative referral.

V. Scholarship

Your scholarship grade will be based on passing quizzes and tests and completing all homework and classroom assignments.

A. Students must bring books, a blue or black pen, a #2 pencil, and subject notebook (with paper), highlighters, and specified literature text to class every day. Failure to bring any one of these will result in a “0” academic grade for the day. Three academic “0”s will result in the lowering in the scholarship grade by one letter grade, six “0”s will lower scholarship by two letter grades, etc.

B. Failure to do homework will also result in a “0” for your academic grade for the day the assignment was due.

C. Quizzes will be given on a weekly basis to ascertain student progress in curriculum objectives.

D. Test will be given approximately twice each month. Each test is double weighted when computing final grade.

E. Quiz and test grades are recorded numerically and amount to approximately 70% of the final grade (percentage varies each quarter).

F. Writing grades are recorded numerically and amount to approximately 30% of the final grade (percentage varies each quarter).

G. **Cell phones are not permitted in class**. **If a student’s cell phone is visible (or rings) during class, it will be confiscated and taken to the Parent Resource Center. If the infraction happens during an in-class activity, a “0” will be issued for that activity.**

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VI. Writing Portfolio

Each student is individually responsible for a writing portfolio. This folder represents your growth as a writer throughout the school year.

A. A writing portfolio will be compiled throughout the academic year. This portfolio will be a representative sampling of the student’s best work in various genres during the school year.

B. Each entry in the writing portfolio will reflect writing as a process. (i.e. prewriting activities, first draft, peer assessment, second draft, teacher assessment, final draft).

VII. Student Notebook

A. Each student should obtain a three ring binder to be brought each day to the classroom. This notebook will initially be divided into ten sections: SYLLABI (to track weekly assignments); VOCABULARY (to include root and prefix lists as well as vocabulary charts that parts of speech, definitions/synonyms/antonyms, associated parts of speech, and quality sentences incorporating the words); GRAMMAR (to include various worksheets dealing with syntax and language components); QUIZZES / TESTS (to insure accuracy of grade notation and to prepare for exams); WRITING (to include guidelines to various rhetorical modes including narrative, descriptive, cause and effect, argumentative, and persuasive writing); RESPONSE LOG (to include student-generated perceptions prior to Harkness discussions and various prewriting activities); LITERATURE (to include assignments based on literary concepts); POETRY (to include poetic composition, figurative language terms, and poetic analysis); PROJECTS (to include handouts on how to complete projects and, if size permits, the projects themselves); NOTES (to record key points from lecture and discussions).

B. A well-organized notebook is often a key element in a student’s academic performance.

C. The student notebook should also be the source of paper supply. Make every effort to bring your own paper to class.

## VIII. Honor Code

All students, on their honor, will not lie, cheat, or steal. **Students are expected to uphold the Honor Code and to encourage others to do so**. Under the honor system students have a twofold obligation: individually, they must not violate the code, and as a community, they are responsible to see that suspected violations are reported.

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IX. School Attendance

A. Excused Absences – These are absences when the student misses one or more classes for reasons that are mutually acceptable to both the parents and school. Some examples of excused absences are: religious observances, confirmed illness, a death in the family, any school-related activities, and confirmed court dates. Other absences may be excused on an individual basis upon request and approval of one of the assistant principals. The student will receive full credit for make-up work for excused absences if the work is completed as soon as possible upon return to school, at the teacher’s discretion.

B. Unexcused Absences – Even though a student’s parents may have requested the absence, an absence is considered unexcused if the student cannot endorse the reasons for it. An unexcused absence also results from a student missing a school commitment for unacceptable and/or inappropriate reasons. Academic work may be forfeited or less time may be given for make-up assignments if the absence(s) is/are unexcused. Examples include, but are not limited to: oversleeping, car problems, traffic, driving school, appointments for driving license, intentional class absence, etc.

X. Dress Code

The dress code Miami Beach Senior High is extensive and should be reviewed carefully in the Student Handbook (available online). Any violation of the dress code will be forwarded to the appropriate administrative staff member and may result in detention.

**GRADING CRITERIA CONTRACT**

**I have read the information in Mr. Dreeson’s Grading Criteria and agree to abide by the terms set within said criteria.**

**I have also shared the information contained within Mr. Dreeson’s Grading Criteria with my parent(s) or legal guardian.**

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**(Student’s Signature) (Parent’s Signature)**

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**(PRINTED - Student’s Last Name)**