



COURSE NAME: BlueJay Seminar

INTRODUCTION/COURSE DESCRIPTION

BlueJay Seminar (1 Semester- 11th or 12th grade)

This course allows students to plan, complete and present an interest-based project. The projects are not content specific and can include endeavors not readily available in classrooms. Students can also work as individuals or in a small group. Participants will employ goal setting, project evaluation, collaboration, time management and communication skills. The semester will culminate in a community showcase, where students will present their projects to the Bondurant-Farrar community.

Prerequisite: Teacher Approval

ESSENTIAL LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learner Goals:

- Learners will explore a wide variety of skills and interest areas to a depth, which is not usually possible in the regular classroom.
- Learners will develop communication and leadership skills to enhance interpersonal and cooperative working relationships and will expand their social skills and confidence in order to be productive members of our global society.
- Learners will engage their curiosity and expand their creative, critical, and logical thinking skills through the use of activities that promote higher-order thinking.

Essential Concept and/or Skill: *Communicate and work productively with others, incorporating different perspectives and cross cultural understanding, to increase innovation and the quality of work.*

- Set goals
- Effectively communicate with group and stakeholders
- Accept and provide feedback in a constructive and considerate manner



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- Process information in order to make an informed decision
 - Ask appropriate questions in seeking clarification
 - Follow directions
 - Express thoughts and ideas clearly and succinctly
 - Use appropriate technology to communicate
 - Use appropriate channels of communication (written, verbal, technical, visual)

Essential Concept and/or Skill: *Adapt to various roles and responsibilities and work flexibly in climates of ambiguity and changing priorities.*

- Work independently or as a part of a team
- Identify ways to improve project or task
- Demonstrate a sense of comfort with lack of structure
- Remain composed and focused, even under stress
- Positively support the work of others
- Engage in the tasks to accomplish goal
- Accept ownership for actions
- Demonstrate trustworthiness and honesty
- Make decisions based on important core values
- Organize required materials in a readily accessible format

Essential Concept and/or Skill: *Demonstrate initiative and self-direction through high achievement and lifelong learning while exploring the ways individual talents and skills can be used for productive outcomes in personal and professional life.*

Perform work without oversight

- Assesses the situation and identify the priority/necessary actions to be taken
- Understand the value of the task in relationship to greater goal
- Understand that incomplete work-- even if excellent--is a failure
- Model self-confidence
- Know how to find and evaluate appropriate resources
- Implement solutions
- Demonstrate commitment to self/group/society



Use time efficiently to manage workload

- Segment task into logical steps with appropriate estimates of time
- Build a timeline to facilitate completion of the task
- Prioritize steps in proper order

Assess one's own mastery of skills

- Understand the task
- Identify the depth and breadth of knowledge to be successful at a task
- Identify and utilize appropriate measure of knowledge

Set and achieve high standards and goals

- Understand incremental steps for acquiring goals
- Create a written plan
- Set realistic goals that match aptitude
- Constructively evaluate progress and takes corrective action when necessary
- Transfer learning from one domain to another
- Detail a course of action in writing with sequence of steps involved
- Implement a solution and makes adjustments when there is need/opportunity for improvement

Essential Concept and/or Skill: *Demonstrate productivity and accountability by meeting high expectations.*

Deliver quality job performance on time

- Recognize and understand required standards needed for successful completion
- Set goals and establish timelines to reach required standards
- Establish assessment checkpoints throughout work processes
- Demonstrate ethical behavior and works responsibly, reliably, and collaboratively with others
- Accept responsibility for errors and corrects errors

SUPPLIES/TEXTBOOK



Varies according to students' projects.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

- Students will arrive on time to class, with all necessary materials, ready to learn.
- Students will adhere to the policies outlined in the student handbook.
- Students will treat all people, property and themselves with respect.
- Students will refrain from using offensive or derogatory language.
- Students will ask for assistance when needed.

GRADING SCALE

[Board Policy 505.5R]: Academic marks are recorded as letter grades, denoting the following quality of work:

"A" is the grade of distinction and represents work of superior quality

"B" represents work of excellent quality

"C" represents work of average quality

"D" represents work regarded as passable, according to the minimum requirements of the course in effort and quality

"F" denotes failure to successfully complete the course and no academic credit is received.

All classes that students are enrolled in are figured into the GPA.

All classes (except for AP) will use the same grading scale. The grading scale is as follows:

A+ = 99-100% ↑	A = 93-98%	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% F = 59% ↓

*AP courses will be weighted and use the following grading scale:

A = 4.5	A- = 4.17	B+ = 3.83
B = 3.5	B- = 3.17	C+ = 2.83
C = 2.5	C- = 2.17	D+ = 1.83
D = 1.5	D- = 1.17	

GRADING

Students will be assessed on the following:



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- Monthly Reflections
 - Goal- setting forms
 - Required communication forms
 - Project deadlines
 - Presentation Professionalism
 - Portfolio
 - Class Citizenship

Grade Post Dates

Semester 1: September 24, October 24, November 25, and January 10

Semester 2: February 13, March 26, April 29, and May 30

LATE WORK

Late work will be accepted up until the end of the essential learning outcome summative assessment (end of unit), and then no late work will be accepted for credit. There will be no penalty for late work until the essential learning outcome summative has been completed, indicating the end of the unit.

When a student is absent from school (whether the absence is excused or unexcused) he/she will be required to make up all work that was missed during the absence. Students shall receive full credit earned for school work made up due to absences and are expected to do so in a timely manner in order to not fall behind. Similar to the late work policy, students will have until the essential learning outcome summative (end of unit) to turn in the work with no grade penalty.

RETAKE POLICY

Students are expected to aim to perform well the first time on assessments. There are times when mastery hasn't been demonstrated due to a variety of reasons. Students choosing to retake must complete the process within one week (5 school days) of receiving back the graded assessment.

If a student wishes to retake, the student must initiate communication with the teacher, complete a retake form (*a form will be created for the building*), and schedule a time to do so. This can be completed during a study hall, a time arranged with the teacher, or before/after school with a teacher of that subject area. In order to qualify for a retake, all necessary work must be turned in prior to the original assessment (i.e. homework, study guides).



Students can retake an individual assessment only one time and are allowed four (4) retakes during the semester per class. Those students enrolled in DMACC and/or AP classes will follow the course syllabus. There will not be retakes allowed on semester exams for any class.

Note: There are some projects/assignments/assessments that may not qualify for a retake. This will be at the teacher's discretion.

W.I.N.

The purpose of W.I.N. is to provide students with an opportunity for reteaching of specific concepts/skills, retaking assessments, and providing supplemental materials for the essential learning standard(s). Teachers will request students as needed, but students may also elect to go to a specific teacher during this time. Sign-up for W.I.N. takes place every day Tuesday through Friday from the beginning of 2nd period until 9:15 a.m.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All student learning is based on the understanding that everyone is thoughtfully engaged in academic tasks and respectful of the work of others. Academic integrity applies to all aspects of teaching and learning. Class assignments and assessments are tools to help students learn; grades show to what degree students achieve learning goals. Therefore, all assignments and assessments for which students receive grades should result from the student's own effort and understanding.

Behaviors that violate Bondurant-Farrar's standards for academic integrity include but are not limited to:

- **Plagiarizing work:** Whether the source material is from another student, the web or any other medium, students will not appropriate source material and pass it off as their own.
- **Sharing work or unauthorized collaboration:** Students will not aid or assist other students in any way on individually assigned tasks.
- **Cheating:** All traditional forms of cheating are also unacceptable. This includes behaviors such as capturing images of tests, communicating during exams, etc.
- **Falsifying Information:** Students will not change a grade assigned by a teacher electronically or in the teacher's grade book.

First offense:



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- Student will be asked to complete an alternative assignment/assessment potentially under adult supervision
 - Appropriate disciplinary actions will be assigned, including but not limited to detention, in-school suspension, parent communication/meeting, or other additional measures

Second offense:

- Student will receive no credit for the assignment/assessment
- Appropriate and potentially more serious disciplinary actions will be assigned, including but not limited to detention, in-school suspension, parent communication/meeting, or other additional measures

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

Electronic devices such as cell phones, smart watches, headphones, and earbuds, not provided by the school, can cause disruption to the school environment and interfere with student learning. All electronic devices must be concealed during instructional time unless authorized by the classroom teacher for instructional purposes. Students are expected to refrain from using their devices for non-academic purposes. Misuse of devices include but are not limited to taking photos/video in the locker room or restroom, using a device to cheat, using a device to incite violence, using a device to bully, harass, threaten, or intimidate another person including a student or staff member, to disseminate inappropriate photos/videos or other restricted materia, etc.

Bondurant-Farrar High School assumes **NO RESPONSIBILITY** for the loss or theft of any electronic devices nor is it obligated to investigate any loss or theft. If you are concerned about loss or theft, leave the device at home.

Violation of this rule can result in the following, including but not limited to: loss of school privileges, detention, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, application of the Good Conduct Rule penalties, or in severe cases, taken before the Board for purposes of expulsion. Depending on the severity of the misuse, local law enforcement may also be contacted.

1st Offense: Verbal warning and request to conceal device

2nd Offense: Minor referral, student places phone on teacher's desk and student will retrieve it at the end of class.

3rd Offense: Major referral (Insubordination), student will be asked to



retrieve at the end of the day from the office.

4th Offense: Major referral (Insubordination), parent/guardian will be asked to pick up at the end of day from the office.

Consequences for additional offenses will be determined by building administration.

ADDITIONAL INFO

All questions should be addressed to Beth Burrow- burrowb@bfschools.org