

GENERAL CLASSROOM RULES

Ms. Nicastro (cathy_nicastro@wrsd.net) she/her/hers

"I am always doing that which I cannot do, in order that I may learn how to do it." – Pablo Picasso

Behavior: We are in community with each other. To make community work, we need to listen to each other with compassion and open hearts, to speak our truth with respect, to think critically, to commit to learn and grow.

Materials required for my classes: Please bring **every day** - your Chrome book, **a pair of earbuds/headphones you can use with chrome book**, pen/pencil/something to write with, a notebook, copies of the materials we are working with (handouts, books, etc.)

Participation: Active participation is required in this class. That means I'll expect you to share your ideas and listen thoughtfully while others share theirs. Part of participation **preparation:** You must come to class (on time) prepared to work every day and with your BRAIN fully engaged and ready to work. You should be in your seat (not at the door) when class begins. *I'll post work on the class page, so check frequently. Please make sure to join that today.*

Assignments: All assignments (including reading assignments) are to be completed on time. When absent, it is your responsibility to approach me about missing work. All missing work must be made up in a timely fashion (see Student Handbook). Work not made up within those guidelines will be recorded as a 0. If you know you'll be absent, you should plan to bring whatever book we're working on home and read ahead. **For long-term projects, absence is no excuse for lateness. Email or share your paper with me (cathy_nicastro@wrsd.net). Copy and paste the paper into the email AND attach it as a WORD document, OR share in Google Docs and send an email notifying me that you have done so. I will email you back when I receive it; if you do not hear from me, I do not have it. Unless otherwise specified, I do not accept work after the due date. If you are in school for any part of a day (or on a field trip) when something is due in class, you must get your work to me (in my hands) at some point during the day.** Papers should be typed or neatly written, double-spaced, and should include all rough drafts (required) **For reading assignments:** I generally assign reading for the week (or so), so if you are out, keep up with the reading. If you were here when reading was assigned, you are expected to be caught up and will be required to participate, have with you any work that's due, etc.

Homework: Often, work assigned at home counts as a process grade (assume this is true, unless I tell you differently). It is always work we need for class the next day, so I do not accept homework late. ***Note here that I do not administer traditional reading quizzes – this means that homework in this class carries the same weight as reading quizzes do in other classes. Do not take a zero!***

Films: Any films we view in class are part of the curriculum and you are responsible for them. If you are absent, **you must make the film up. I will make copies available whenever possible for you to watch in the Media Center during studies, if that is what suits you best.**

Plagiarism is an academic crime. Don't do it. Be careful to credit all intellectual property (including ideas, images, phrases, etc. you pick up from other sources - SparkNotes, the Internet, etc. - even if you do not directly quote from the original source), or you will receive a "0" - no arguments. Please understand that copying someone else's work falls under this category. ***If you copy someone else's homework, journals, classwork, etc., both parties will receive a zero for the assignment.*** Plagiarism is also reported to administration, and it becomes part of your academic record. Please see the student handbook's plagiarism statement in addition to this.

Grading and Assessment: Grades will be based on the wide variety of assessments used during each term. These could include: journals, process, and practice work with reading, tests, papers, essays, projects, oral presentations, class preparation and class participation. See "Grading Policies" for more information. ***Note here that I do not administer traditional reading quizzes – this means that homework in this class carries the same weight as reading quizzes do in other classes. Do not take a zero!*** Unsatisfactory work will not be accepted - if you hand in such work, you will be asked to revise it before I will grade it.

Student work (read this!): I believe strongly in using student work to inform and change instruction. I often use student work as models in class, with other teachers in order to improve practice and for research purposes. For the most part, I use work without attribution (that means it's anonymous - no name, no class block identification, no identifying marks). When I need to use work with attribution (with your name), I will always ask your permission. If you do not want me to use your work, please tell me, and I'll honor that request.

I am available before school at least two days a week for extra help. See me in room C215.