

Creative Writing

Mr. Bennett

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Welcome!

We are excited to welcome you to Creative Writing this semester. This class will challenge you to engage in the writing process and explore a number of creative composition types. These skills will be demonstrated largely through five major writing projects throughout the semester (**explode the moment, memoir, character sketch, short story and sitcom**). You will also be expected to keep a journal with daily writing assignments. Students who positively engage in this class can expect to further develop their skills in thinking and communicating through writing.

Goals of the Course (Students will...):

- apply a variety of strategies to expand vocabulary
- write in narrative, expository, descriptive, persuasive, and critical modes
- engage in a writing process with attention to audience, organization, focus, quality of ideas, and a purpose
- apply standard English conventions
- demonstrate understanding and communicate effectively through listening and speaking

Materials

You will need to bring the following to class each day:

- Your chromebook (fully charged each day)

Expectations

I'm a firm believer that kindness counts, so please – treat people the way you'd like to be treated!

- Respect us: Please don't waste our time by showing up to class late or talking when we are giving instructions.
- Respect your classmates: Do not distract people around you who are here to engage in learning. Think before you speak or act!
- Respect yourselves: Come to class prepared so that YOU can learn. This is your class and your grade: respond accordingly. Bring your own materials, do your own work, and talk to me whenever you have questions or concerns.

*** It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to know and understand any information given to you during class lectures and discussions, as well as information found on the board or presented on assignments in google classroom. Pay attention to due dates, homework assignments, and notices.

Attendance

Your presence and active participation in class is vital to your learning. Students are expected to be present and ready to learn at the start of class. **If you are not in your assigned seat when the bell rings you will be marked tardy.** The attendance and tardiness policies outlined in the student handbook will be enforced.

If you miss class, first go to our period's Google classroom site to see what you have missed. You must obtain missing notes from our Google classroom site. If you are absent or sick, you need to email me as soon as possible. It is important that I have this information in terms of attendance as well as assessment. Absent assignments should be submitted within 3 days of the absence (situationally dependent).

Coursework

You must login each day and check your assignments. Assignments/activities need to be completed and submitted by the due date. Please do your best to work on school assignments/lessons during school hours. You are much more likely to get a quick email response from me if you are asking questions during that time. Remember to officially turn in assignments on google classroom by clicking "turn in" inside the assignment and on the stream. With Google Forms, you must still click on turn in or resubmit to let your teacher know that you have completed them. Google Forms do not notify teachers when you complete them, so you must click on turn in on Google Classroom.

Technology

Phones and headphones will not be allowed in the classroom. The consequences of violating this rule will be subject to school expectations and procedures:

If a cell phone and/or earbuds/airpods are brought to school, the phone must be in airplane mode or turned off and both the phone and earbuds/airpods must be placed in the classroom phone caddy during class time.

All MVHS teachers are directed to refer students that choose not to place their phone in a classroom phone caddy to administration. Upon meeting with administration, students will be required to leave their phone in the front office for the remainder of the school day.

They may pick up their phone after school, but will then be required to leave their phone in the front office during school hours the following day.

Homework

Academic Honesty Policy: If you plagiarize (a test OR paper), you will redo the assignment, meet with your dean, and complete an Ethics Study. See the MVHS Academic Integrity Expectations and Consequences for more details.

Due Date vs. Expiration: Unless otherwise specified, all formative assessments expire on the Friday of the day the first draft is assigned for each unit. Summative assessments expire one week after the due date. You are given time to complete much of the course work in class. Take advantage of the time to work and ask questions. **Late work will receive a 10% deduction on practice and performance assignments.**

*****All performance work expires one week after it was assigned.**

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to see me for missing work and deadlines. **If you are absent because of a school-related activity (band, orchestra, field trip, student council, etc.), it is your job to GET THE ASSIGNMENT TURNED IN AHEAD OF TIME.**

Communication

I am available before school at 8:10 on most days. However, if you plan to meet with me during this time, please let me know in advance. I am also available after school most days as well. I am here for YOU, so please come and visit whenever you are struggling or simply have questions/concerns. Please check schoolview regularly to see your grades and talk to me if you have any questions or concerns promptly and responsibly.

Building Grading Policies:

Grades for the course will be broken up into two categories: Performance (Summative Assessments) and Practice (Formative Assessments). 85% of the grade book will be made up of Performance assessments, while 15% of the grade book will be made up of Practice assessments.

The grade you receive at the end of the semester is the grade you earned, end of discussion. Emails or conversations asking for a grade bump will not make me change your grade. Work hard and take responsibility for your learning and you will be satisfied with your grade.

MVHS Grading Scale

4 = Mastered

3 = Proficient

2 = Developing

1 = Limited Understanding

0 = Insufficient Evidence

M = Missing