

Careers English
Welcome Letter and Course Syllabus 2019-2020

Teacher: Chris Plewa 530-622-3634 ext. 1200 Email: cplewa@eduhd.k12.ca.us

Course Objectives

Mr Plewa's classroom is a diverse and positive learning environment where every student's contribution is valued. Students are supported to develop not only their academic ability but their social and emotional growth so that the classroom is a co-operative and fun environment where all students feel able to express themselves. This class will focus on and build English skills and related concepts that will allow the students to prepare for a school-to-career transition. They will work on reading comprehension and writing, build communication skills, improve their vocabulary and become familiar with career pathways. Technology, guest speakers and field trips will be utilized along with independent, small group and team activities/assignments.

Student motivation and a home-school connection that supports additional reading are important factors that play a role in creating students ready to join the workforce. I welcome questions or comments you may have in how to best support your child's reading improvement at home. This course will offer an opportunity to learn a Careers English curriculum that is taught at a pace and level for the understanding and success of students who have a current IEP and who are not on a diploma pathway.

Class Goals:

1. Develop reading comprehension
2. Develop critical thinking skills
3. Increase interest in reading
4. Expand reading and written vocabulary
5. Develop writing organization, fluency and style
6. Develop an understanding of the importance of tolerance within the workplace
7. Develop a familiarity with the eight career paths and the various job clusters within each pathway
8. Develop technology skills
9. Develop a familiarity with the SCANS Foundations and Competencies as they relate to employer expectations and successful job experiences
10. Develop skills for active listening, oral presentations and communication in a work related setting

Student Performance objectives:

1. Reading skills
2. Writing skills
3. SCANS/Career skills

4. Language Skills/Communication skills

Office Hours

By appointment is best for in person meetings. I teach classes during the school day and am often required at IEP meetings in the afternoons. I do my best to return voicemails and emails promptly within 24 hours.

Everyday School Essentials

1. Backpack
2. Pencil case with, pencils, pens, eraser and a highlighter.
3. Subject folder with dividers
4. Notepaper
5. Planner
6. School ID

Classwork and Binder

Students will work from several curriculums and textbooks supplemented and augmented as necessary. Students will also be using technology and google classroom to complete assignments. Students will be required to take periodic benchmark assessments in reading, spelling, fluency etc to chart their progress and identify areas for remediation.

Late Work and Absences

Students are responsible for making up late work due to unplanned absences and should check in with Mr Plewa on their return to school.

Class Rules

1. Listen and follow directions quickly.
2. Respect: Others, yourself and the school.
3. Raise your hand to speak in class.
4. Be Safe, kind and honest.
5. Be respectful and responsible.
6. Solve that problem. Use your resources.
7. Do your best!

Grading Policy

Grades are based on student participation, effort and assessment results. These are individually determined based on their IEP goals and needs. Students have access to 1:1 attention in areas of difficulty and can repeat work as needed for a higher grade.

Grading Breakdown	Grade Bands
Class Work and Participation - 100%	A = 90% + B = 80 - 89.9%

	C = 70 - 79.9% D = 60 - 69.9% F = 59% or below
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Participation and Collaboration

Positive Interaction with others is an essential part of this class. Students are expected to be helpful in creating a positive learning environment for others. Throughout the term students will be paired with all classmates for activities and are evaluated on their ability to work with others.

Electronic Devices

Students violating the school's cell phone policy will be warned. Persistent violations will result in the device being taken to the office for a parent to collect at the end of the school day.

Communication to Parents and Guardians

I welcome open and frequent communication and will contact you with any concerns I may have throughout the term. Please feel free to call or email with any queries that you may have. You are always welcome to drop by the class at any time, just be sure to sign in at the front office first. Should any changes be made to this syllabus, they will be made in writing and signed and attached as an addendum.

I look forward to working with you to support the success of your child at EDHS. Please acknowledge receipt of this syllabus and your agreement to it by signing and returning the following page by Monday 19 August.

With kind regards,

Chris Plewa

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Student Name	
Student Signature	
Parent Name	
Parent Signature	
Preferred method of communication (email, cell #, phone#)	

Parent Notes to Teacher

Please use this box to add any comments that you feel may be useful for me to know about your child as it relates to their reading or how to best support them in class.