



SAUGUS HIGH SCHOOL

WM. S. HART UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
"Home of the Centurions"

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GENEVIEVE PETERSON-HENRY
PRINCIPAL

Humanities

Mr. Fannon

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This Course orientation has been prepared to communicate the expectations, course content, course requirements, policies and any other information that will give you the opportunity to achieve and have a positive learning experience. Please read it carefully and share it with your parents. If you do not understand this course orientation sheet or have questions about this course, please see me personally.

1) Introduction of Course- This is a single semester course that will acquaint the student with art from around the world. Humanities is the study of art in many forms. We will look at literature from around the world with a focus on England and Africa. On Mondays/Tuesdays we will study visual artists from Michelangelo to Dali. On Thursdays/Fridays we will study music from Bach to Nirvana. We will also spend time looking at influential filmmakers.

*During the semester we will read several works from English writers, and we will read texts by African writers including the novel *Things Fall Apart* by Africa's most celebrated author Chinua Achebe.

2) Textbook and Other Materials- There is no textbook for this class. We will check out the aforementioned novel during the semester. I would like each student to have a section in their notebook that will be used specifically for this class. **I will collect your notes at the end of the semester for a notebook grade.**

3) Grading System- You will be evaluated on all assignments that I give you. All assignments will receive a numerical point value. Each student's grade will be determined by dividing the total number of points by the amount of points possible. The following scale will be used to determine the letter grade.

89.5-92%=A-	93-100=A	
79.5-82%=B-	83-86%=B	87-89%=B+
69.5-72%=C-	73-76%=C	77-79%=C+
59.5-62%=D-	63-66%=D	67-69%=D+
Below 59.5%=F		

4) Homework and Class Work- **Assignments will only be accepted on the due date.** If you are absent on the day that an assignment is given, the assignment is due on the day after you come back. If you are absent on the due date, it is due the day you return to class. If your absence is not excused, you will not be able to make-up the assignment.

***In the beginning of the semester you will be given 5 opportunities to make up a homework assignment that you forgot to complete. The maximum point total that you can receive for a make-up assignment is 80%. For example, if it is a 40-point assignment, the most you can get is 32/40. However, 80% is better than a zero.**

***Major projects and essays are due on the due date. Excused absences will not be accepted even in this case. I will however, accept the project or essay late with a penalty of a letter grade per day.**

***Daily quizzes cannot be made-up; however, I drop the 5 lowest daily quiz scores at the 10-week report card to make-up for any missed daily quizzes.**

There are a few other rules that all students need to follow in doing work:

*All work is to be done in ink. I am getting old and my eyesight is not what it once was. It is hard to read pencil with these old eyes, so please do your work in ink.

*All work is to be done on 8 ½ x 11-inch lined paper. Typing your assignments is even better.

*Please turn in work that is organized and neat. If I can't read your assignment, I can't grade your assignment.

5) **Academic Honesty:** A big part of being in school is to learn how to think critically and behave maturely, responsibly, and respectfully. Part of this learning process involves *academic honesty* when presenting your work to your instructor. Hence, *plagiarism* is **absolutely NOT tolerated under any circumstances**. Please note that **all of our essays are submitted to Turnitin.com. This is a website that checks for plagiarism. Please turn in your own work and there will not be any issues. I will not give you credit for a plagiarized assignment.**

6) **Classroom Management Policies-** I have very simple rules:

1. You must show respect for your classmates at all times. I have a zero-tolerance level for any kind of disrespect by one student towards another. This includes foul language, sexual harassment, and any other kind of behavior that I feel is disrespectful. I want this to be a safe learning environment for all of my students.
2. You must show respect for Mr. Fannon, as he will always respect you. All items under rule 1 apply
3. Don't do anything stupid. Every student has been in school long enough to know what is stupid and what is not.
4. No headphones at all in my class.
5. No eating or drinking in class, unless it is water.

7) **Cell Phone Policy and Rules-**

I need you to be PRESENT every time we meet. To be present, there should be no distractions. Your cell phone can be a huge distraction if you let it. So that you will not become distracted, **your cellphone will be put away in a pocket chart as you walk into class each day. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS.** *If you are caught using your cell phone during class because you did not put it in the pocket chart, I may take away your cell phone and contact your parent/guardian. I am trying to foster an engaged and thoughtful environment in our class. If you are distracted by your phone, you will not be engaged, and there will not be much thought put into our activities. Honestly it is a huge sign of disrespect and I would hope that you will respect the environment I am trying to create in my classroom.*

8) **Tardies-** You are tardy if you are not in my class by the time the tardy bell rings. The school has a tardy policy that will be enforced in this class. Being on time to class is so important. It helps us to get started on time, it means less distractions for the class because there will not be students coming in while we are trying to learn. **Most importantly...**

*****If you are tardy you will not be allowed to take the Daily Quiz!!!*****

10) **Conference Period-** The best way to reach me is by e-mail: jfannon@hartdistrict.org. I have a website. Please check it for daily agendas, homework, and important messages: <http://www.jfannon.weebly.com>. Never hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mr. Fannon

Please complete the signature page and have your student return it to me confirming you have read this syllabus.

Saugus High School

Course Orientation Signature Page

(Please note that all information you provide will be kept confidential. Please have your student return this page to me but keep the rest of the syllabus for your records)

Student Name:

Parent/Guardian name: _____

Parent/Guardian cell phone: _____

Parent/Guardian e-mail: _____

From the parent/guardian to the teacher:

Here is some important information that I would like you to know about my child so that they can be more successful in your class:

My signature below indicates that I have read, understand, and agree to the requirements for this class as outlined in this course orientation. Please take a close look at the cell phone policy.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____