

William A. Shine—Great Neck South High School
Course Expectation Sheet

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

COURSE: READING AND RESEARCH
(Revised 9/19)

DESCRIPTION

This course will emphasize the development of reading, writing, and research skills essential for college, in particular, the writing of the research paper.

SKILLS include but are not limited to the following:

- Independent reading of nonfiction texts that model the clear, correct, thoughtful, and nuanced use of the English language, including in its vocabulary and syntax.
- Writing of a variety of modes of discourse, including but not limited to narrative, exposition, and argument.
- Evaluation of both print and online sources, particularly to identify credibility and bias.
- Close reading and annotation of sources, particularly to identify major claims, hidden assumptions, and supporting evidence.
- Synthesis and integration of primary and secondary material.
- Development of an original, insightful thesis.
- Oral presentation of research and conclusions.
- Construction of an original, well supported, tightly organized, clearly articulated, and persuasively argued essay.
- Use of proper documentation (for example, as outlined by the MLA).
- Management of time through long-term, cumulative assignments (such as the thesis statement, the annotated bibliography, the formal outline, and multiple drafts).

SUPPORT

- Regular conversations during in-class workshop sessions between teacher and student about the progress of the student's research.
- Formal writing conference appointments, either during a student's free period or before or after school.

ASSESSMENTS

- Major tests will be given on English testing day.
- In-class essays that require minimal preparation may be given on any day.
- Unannounced quizzes may be given on any day.
- Class participation may count as much as 20% of the quarter grade.
- It is the responsibility of absent students to arrange a time to make up missed work and tests.
- Students will be responsible for all assignments on the date they are due unless prior arrangements have been approved by the teacher.
- All unapproved late submission of work will be penalized by reduction in grade.

ATTENDANCE PHILOSOPHY

Attendance is part of a student's participation grade, which may count as much as 20% of the grade for the quarter. Regular attendance and punctuality are expected. Cutting is not permitted.

If students intentionally absent themselves from a class without a legitimate reason, they will not be entitled to make up any assignments or exams missed during that period. Intentional absences are a clear message that students are not interested in doing their best. Excessive illegal absences or any cutting will result in parental notification and will have a negative impact on how class participation will be factored into quarter and final grades.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The integrity of the academic process requires that credit be given where credit is due. Accordingly, it is unethical to present the ideas, representations, or words of another as one's own or to permit one's own work to be used by someone else without customary and proper acknowledgement of sources. In addition to such plagiarism, the following acts violate the academic integrity policy:

- copying or paraphrasing information from the Internet or out of a book
- copying information from a friend, classmate or sibling
- “collaborating” with classmates on assignments for which no collaboration is assigned
- sharing information about test or quiz questions and answers with classmates who will have a similar assessment later

When students submit work that is not their own, they will receive no credit for that work and will have no opportunity to make up that work. Students who willingly share their work with others are also subject to penalty.