

Simple Expectations for Students

1. Be on time and prepared for class.
2. Follow directions the first time they are given.
3. Respect others and yourself.

Encouragement for Positive Behavior

1. I will let you know when you are doing well with verbal or written recognition.
2. When communicating with your parents, I will let them know how well you are doing.
3. A favorable progress report and grades which reflect your positive attitude and hard work.

Consequences for Inappropriate Behavior

1. Verbal reminder during class.
2. Speak with me after class.
3. Review the simple rules with me at the end of the day.
4. Communication with your parents.
5. Referral to dean for disciplinary action.

Reminders

1. A lack of compliance will result in the next consequence.
2. Repeated infractions will lower your class grade.
3. For severe misbehavior, a student will be immediately referred to the deans and other appropriate school administrators and personnel as needed and/or warranted.
4. Each day means a fresh start.

Grades

Your quarter grade will be determined by the following criteria:

10% Daily Class Participation
90% Tests, Quizzes, and Written Assignments

Mr. Ko's Promise

This course will challenge you to read critically, think analytically, and express yourself clearly. If you ever feel overwhelmed, do not give up on yourself. I will not give up on you. Whenever you have questions about anything you do not understand, do not hesitate to ask me. I will try to answer your questions to the best of my ability and clear up any confusion or misunderstanding. I am here to help each and every one of you succeed to the best of your ability.

Daily Class Participation

1. Appropriate class participation is defined by punctual attendance, positive behavior, productive collaboration with peers, and meaningful contributions to classroom learning.
2. Repeated unexcused tardiness to class will lower a student's grade for that quarter.
3. Unexcused absences (i.e. cuts) will lower a student's grade for that quarter.
4. Repeated disruptive, inappropriate behavior will lower a student's grade for that quarter.
5. Positive class participation includes, but is not limited to, asking relevant questions, answering questions in a thoughtful manner, and contributing to class discussion in a meaningful way.
QUALITY MATTERS MORE THAN QUANTITY.

Homework

1. Homework (usually readings from a textbook) will be assigned on a regular basis.
2. Students are expected to have completed the assigned homework reading for that day before coming to class.
3. Written homework as proof of having completed the assigned reading for that day is optional (at parents' discretion) and counts toward the student's quarter grade.
4. At their own discretion, parents may ask that their child's written homework be excused for being turned in late* or dropped altogether by filling out a parental permission form (located on Mr. Ko's website). However, please keep in mind that fewer or no homework points accrued each quarter means that tests, quizzes, class participation, and writing exercises will all have greater weight in determining an individual student's quarter grade.
5. Unless otherwise instructed by the teacher, written homework assignments shall be notes of the assigned reading taken in standard outline format.
6. Written homework will always be collected at the beginning of class on the day the assignment is due. Assignments turned in after that point are considered late. Late assignments must be handwritten and may only receive partial credit based on how much time has elapsed since they were due.
7. If there are legitimate extenuating circumstances affecting a student's ability to turn in homework on time, the student (or his/her parents) should inform Mr. Ko of them. It may be possible for the usual late penalties to be reduced or waived depending on the circumstances.
8. Written assignments must have the proper heading, margins, and identifying information in order to receive full credit.

Academic Honesty

1. Plagiarism and cheating of any sort is unacceptable.
2. The penalty for any plagiarism and cheating is a zero for that assignment or test.
3. Students who cut class to avoid taking a test will receive a zero for that test.

Contacting Mr. Ko

1. Social Studies Department Office: (516) 441-4855
2. Email: jko@greatneck.k12.ny.us
3. Website: www.socialstudiesteacher.org

Parents are encouraged to contact me about any concerns or questions about their child's progress.

Parent and Student Acknowledgement of Course Expectations

Parent signature: _____

Student signature: _____