

## Course Expectations

1. “Our classroom is a place for learning.” Behavior that is distracting to yourself and other students around you is not acceptable!

2. Our class follows all the rules set forth in the Natomas High School Student Handbook <http://www.natomas.k12.ca.us/152220916104833483/site/default.asp> or a link can be found on the Natomas High School website under the banner on all the pages labeled STUDENT. From the list of options under S choose STUDENT HANDBOOK

- Hall passes / Bathroom passes
- Tardy policy
- Dress Code
- Academic honesty
- Cell phone use

3. The Teacher's role in our classroom

- I will respect each student.
- I will create an environment where each student is safe to learn.
- I will provide a rigorous schedule of learning activities to provide students with the knowledge and skills to satisfy the standards set forth by the school district as part of the curriculum.
- I will assign each student a grade based on the effort put forth to succeed.
- I will see successes and failures as an opportunity to learn.

4. The Student's role in our classroom

- Each student will respect the teacher and the other students.
- Each student will respect our classroom property and materials.
- Each student will be prepared to learn everyday by having the required tools and materials to complete their assignments.
- Each student will do his or her best to succeed and learn.
- Each student will see successes and failures as an opportunity to learn.

5. Classroom Participation

My grading policy is based on each student's ability to complete assignments and contribute to our class. 1 point will be earned each day by completing assignments, engaging in classroom discussions, helping other students, and completing Learning Activities. A failure to engage in the class activities and assignments will result in a lower grade.

**1 point will be taken away for...**

Wasting time  
Excessive / distracting socializing  
Use of inappropriate language  
Disrespectful use of the cell phone  
Wandering around the class  
Cutting class

Disrupting / disrespecting the classroom environment  
Referral to the office

Valuable instructional time is lost when you are not in class. Our learning environment is diminished when students are absent or have an unexcused tardy. Students who are absent or have an unexcused tardy 5 or more times within a one month period will lose an equivalent point value. Excused absences will not affect the class participation points. Unexcused absences and unexcused tardies 1-4 will not affect the class participation points. Class participation points will be entered at the end of each month.

If you wish to recover your lost points for the day you were absent / tardy, you will be assigned a review of our current topic. Long-term absences will compound into a small project that will be discussed on a per student basis. If you plan on being absent for a long period of time you need to apply for independent study through the office and get approval from all your teachers.

## 6. Boundaries and Consequences

I will give students a warning when they are getting close to crossing our classroom boundaries for acceptable behavior. Consequences will be assigned for unsafe behavior, lying, cheating, misuse of electronic devices, disrespectful behavior or failure to follow the rules set forth by NHS. Consequences may include: removal from the classroom, chores, time after class, a phone call home, detention, classroom suspension or a referral to the Vice Principal's office. **Our behavior is a direct reflection of our beliefs and choices. Those who choose not to learn from the rules must learn from the consequences.**

## 7. Electronic Devices Policy

(cell phones, ipods, mp3's, radios, camera, etc.)

Students must adhere to individual classroom and teacher policies regarding electronic devices. Students may receive an after-school detention for inappropriate use of electronic devices in class. Teachers also reserve the right to confiscate electronic devices after students' failure to comply with classroom policies. Upon confiscation, the student's parent/guardian will be required to meet with administration and receive the confiscated item. Repeated issues with electronic devices will result in further disciplinary action.

It is important to understand that while technology is ingrained in daily life, it is an unfortunate fact that electronic devices can be and are stolen on campus. Also, phones and other camera devices have been used to incite fights through the use of text messages, and recording features on the phone.

Students identified as using cell phones/electronic devices for the purpose of bullying, harassing, intimidating, threatening, arranging the sale/exchange of controlled substances or inciting conflict on campus will be suspended from school. Natomas High School is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

8. Students will be required to stay in their assigned seats during the entire class period. A reason that you would need to be out of your seat would be 1. Getting supplies, 2. Group activities, 3. Going to see the teacher for assistance, 4. Clean up.

## 9. Absences

Students are still responsible for learning activities and assignments even if you are absent. If a student has a long term excused absence Mr. Knight will provide a case-by-case assessment of work to be done. If possible, please discuss your expected absences before leaving. The school may require students to apply for independent study if they will be absent for an extended period of time. Unexcused absences will not have extra-time allotted. All work must be turned in no later than the last day of the grading period.

## 10. Late work

To create a classroom that accommodates many different learning and working styles students will always be allowed to turn in their work. Projects that are turned in 2 weeks after the due date will only be eligible for a maximum score of 80% of the total points. This does not apply to excused absences. If there is a compelling reason why a student was not able to complete their projects during studio time or at home an exception may be discussed with Mr. Knight. Students must ask Mr. Knight for additional time to complete their project, before the two week mark arrives.

## 11. Missing Assignments

Students are responsible for all missing assignments. The student must replace missing or lost work. Students are responsible for checking Power School to see if they have missed an assignment.

12. Disclosure... I, the teacher, have the right to alter the expectations of our class as needed to improve learning of the individuals involved.

## **Open door policy-**

Your feelings and concerns are important to your success. Students who have a say in how their classroom operates are more likely to want to contribute in a positive way. If there is something that is bothering you or you have a concern that is making it difficult for you to be engaged in the classroom activities, please feel free to express your concerns to me so I can create an environment where we all feel safe to learn.