**Classroom Expectations**

* Be on time (in class and seated by the time the second bell rings). If you find yourself standing in the hallway staring at a locked door, it probably means you are late. Wait patiently and you will be let in . . . eventually . . . maybe . . . perhaps.
* Bring all your materials with you: your binder (hopefully it even has paper inside), a pen, a pencil, and whatever textbooks/novels we happen to be reading. If you forget, be prepared to ask someone, or find an alternate means of putting your thoughts on paper . . . hmmmmmmm. I may have supplies to lend, but don’t count on it – last time I checked I wasn’t working at staples.
* If you have to go to the bathroom, you have to go – nature calls. Just remember to ask me when it is appropriate. Don’t interrupt me with this question. Generally, the first 10 minutes and the last 10 minutes are not a good time to ask.
* Complete all work that is assigned to you in a timely fashion. Aside from projects homework will usually be reading (yes, you do have to read – this is ENGLISH after all) and class work that you couldn’t finish in class (and I usually provide more than enough time for you to finish work in class). Work can always – ALWAYS (did I mention always) be handed in. However late marks may be deducted from the work, and don’t expect the late work to be marked when you want it marked – I’ll mark it on my own schedule. Remember, you always have the option of e-mailing me assignments as well. What’s that? You didn’t have my e-mail . . . You mean the one on the board, the course outline, AND the schools website?
* You are responsible for your own work. If you are absent, it is up to you to approach me (at an appropriate time of course) to get missing work and to arrange alternate days for making up missed tests.
* You are allowed to eat in my class. However, avoid eating loud/distracting foods while I’m teaching (it is tough to compete with noise the massive bag of chips from Costco makes) and don’t expect to be able to leave to buy food (unless I have missed lunch as well). You can drink in my class too, but I prefer drinks in containers that can be closed (you haven’t lived until you have seen a fruit fly swarm after a long weekend). Please remember to properly dispose of your garbage.
* You should not be using cell phones during class time. The general rule is that I don’t really want to see your phones out . . . and (surprisingly) I find it very disrespectful, not only to me but the rest of the class as well, when you decide to actually answer your phone in class. I understand that all messages are seen as urgent in your eyes, but remember . . . your friends will not suddenly hate you if you do not respond instantly; your tweet is not a matter of life and death; and your Facebook friends do not need to know what your pencil smells like while you are sitting in class. Therefore, act accordingly. \*Understand that the “No Cell Phone” rule is a school policy and that the classroom teacher has the right to confiscate cellular devices.
* In addition, please keep in mind that EVERY student in this class has the right to personal privacy – cell phone/ipod cameras are STRICTLY PROHIBITED. Please respect this rule.
* I will allow you to use your mp3 players during work time. When I am teaching, take your earphones OUT OF YOUR EARS (be respectful to me). What . . . you didn’t hear . . . THAT’S BECAUSE YOU HAVE EARPHONES IN!! Remember that this is a personal choice of mine to allow you to use them in class – therefore do not abuse your privilege and remember that I have the right at any time to void my policy and confiscate your ipod/mp3 player in the event of misuse.
* Respect everyone in class (including their personal property) – I see our class as a community where we will interact, learn, and grow together. To do so we need trust, and trust cannot exist without mutual respect.
* Avoid offensive language (I’m very sensitive and cry easily) and derogatory terms.

How to Succeed in English

* Be here. Remarkably, you actually have a better chance of not only passing but also doing well if you are in class.
* Actively participate. Don’t sit at the back of the class and hope I won’t notice you; I will.
* Make some friends in class that you can ask for help, or missed assignments. I will try to respond to email questions and promptly update the website, but sometimes I will just not have the time. I have a life outside of school too . . . I think.
* Make sure you have the materials you need with you in class.
* Feel free to take down notes, anytime. Not all concepts will be handed to you in handout form
* Keep all your work, even after it has been graded. Sometimes my data entry is incorrect, and if you don’t have the proof that I goofed then I will go with what I have. Wait a minute – I’m the teacher, therefore I am always correct . . . right?
* Feel free to ask questions about anything you don’t understand at any time during class. Remember, too, that I will feel free to do the same to you.
* Don’t be scared to learn, and venture beyond your comfort zone.
* Please remember to turn off all phones before class. If you decide to play games, text, or answer your phone during class it will become my property until I remember to return it to you.
* Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated.