

English3-4

Mrs. Bohannon

Welcome back BISON! We are going to cover many different aspects of communication arts such as writing, speaking, and reading of various types of literature. This class is going to continue to help you build a solid foundation in communication arts that will help you in the years to come. My goal is to help you achieve even more during your sophomore year than you did your freshmen year! Therefore it is imperative that you start the year with a positive attitude and the desire to learn. If you do this, you will not be disappointed! It is possible to learn while having fun and therefore I will try to make class as interesting as possible. Lucky for you, I am an extremely funny person! ☺

Goals

- Encourage the development of self-advocacy
- Achieve passing scores on the sophomore assessments in the areas of writing, formal speaking, interpersonal speaking, and general behavior expectations
- Increase enjoyment of reading
- Become more familiar with research techniques and MLA citation
- Create a comfortable, safe, and fun learning environment

Classroom Expectations

1. **Show respect.** Treat those around you, as you would like to be treated. You do not have to be everybody's friend but you do need to show common courtesy. NOBODY likes to be made fun of or bullied. Everyone deserves the opportunity to learn and feel safe in school. Do not let me catch you breaking this expectation! Nothing upsets me more than seeing someone treat someone else with disrespect.

2. **Be responsible.** If you want to be treated like an adult, please act like one. Come to class on time and prepared, participate appropriately in classroom activities, and clean up after yourself.

3. **Follow the policies listed in the student handbook i.e. dress code.** If you have lost your copy let me know and I will find a new handbook for you.

Discipline Consequences: Although I do not expect any problems, I am including the consequences for not following my expectations. Violation of the above expectations will result in at least one of the following actions and not necessarily in this order:

1. A verbal or nonverbal warning, which may include a brief conference after class.
2. Detention.
3. A phone call home to parents or guardians to discuss the situation and how best to prevent it from happening again.
4. A P.A.R., which includes an immediate trip to the administrative principal.

Classroom Procedures

Starting the class: All students are expected to be in their seats working on the assigned bell ringer when the bell rings. Instructions to follow.

Tardies: You will receive a tardy if you are not in my class when the bell rings. Please show respect and be in class on time! I will not stop class and go back to fill you in on what you missed. It is your responsibility to get caught up with us.

Cell Phones: I have a zero tolerance policy for cell phones. If I can manage to stay off my phone during class, so can you! If I see it, it goes to the office. No warnings!

Homework: Homework is due at the beginning of the class unless I specify otherwise. I will call for the work and collect it. Once I have collected the work, any work handed in after that is considered late. This includes work handed in even a minute after I have asked for it. Late means late!

The Golden Ticket: You will receive a golden ticket each semester. This allows you to turn in one assignment late without receiving a zero. You must turn it in the **next day** and the ticket must be filled out properly. Exceptions may apply and will be known ahead of time.

Late Work: The real world does not let you turn in things late without a penalty. Expect the same here. The reason that I give homework is to reinforce the concept that I am trying to teach. Doing assigned homework late defeats the purpose so please be prompt in turning in your work. I will not accept late work for any daily work. For larger assignments, you must come in **the day it is due** and explain why it was not completed on time and an appropriate grade deduction will be made depending on circumstances and lateness. You may be assigned Saturday School to help you get caught up if needed. Chronic late work will not be accepted nor tolerated. If this becomes a problem, a conference with your parent, counselor, and teacher will be necessary to get you back on track.

Absent: If you are absent because of an illness, you can find out what you missed by looking in your notebook where you have written the weekly lesson plans or calling the homework hotline. If you have questions about what you missed or need materials that were handed out, I will be more than happy to help you at the **end of the period, before school and after school!**

Makeup work: You have two days to make up any missing work for each day you were absent. This includes being prepared for presentations and tests. Items that were due the day you were gone are due the day you get back, you do not get an extension!

If you are in school activities and know that you are going to be absent ahead of time you must either complete the work ahead of time or have it completed the day you return. Depending on the assignment, this rule may or may not apply. Please see me before you leave for clarification!

Bathroom Passes: Do not abuse this privilege. Take care of business before class. Bathroom time is not for texting! If this becomes a problem, I will assign bathroom passes.

Dismissal: When the bell rings, you need to remain in your seat until I dismiss you. This gives me an opportunity to make sure the classroom is clean and remind you of any last minute items. Also, one of my biggest pet peeves is when a student decides that they are finished for the day and they pack up their things early. Not only are they wasting precious time but they are also disturbing those around them. I will let you know when it is appropriate to put things away.

Contact Information

If you are absent and need to know what you missed, here are the ways to contact me.

- 1- Email (best option) rachel_bohannon@gfps.k12.mt.us
- 2- Phone 268-6378

Grading and Assignment Procedures

Materials: Students need to bring the following with them each day:

- Textbooks or novel
- a composition book that will be kept in class
- $\frac{1}{2}$ - 1 in. 3 ring binder with paper and folders or dividers
- black or blue pen, and a pencil (I do not accept any other ink colors besides black or blue.)
- Any additional materials will be requested as needed.

Grading Scale: I use the standard unweighted grading scale: 100-90 = A, 89-80 = B, 79-70 = C, 69-60 = D, 59-0 = F

Grading Types:

Process grade - points earned for having completed an assignment without criteria. This is an all or nothing grade. You will either receive full points or zero points.

Evaluation grade - grade assigned based on a set of criteria. The amount of points earned will depend on the quality of work that is handed in.

Sophomore Outside Reading Requirements

Outside reading is worth 10% of your grade each quarter. You need to complete 400 pages each quarter to receive full credit. To earn this grade you must do an oral book interview with me unless told otherwise.

A	270-300
B	240-269
C	210-239
D	180-209
F	179 and below

Pluses and minuses will be awarded depending on where you fall in each range.

1. You are graded on the number of pages you read, not the number of books you finish.
 2. Extra pages beyond total required are carried over to the next grading period.
 3. You do not have to finish a book that you do not like but you do have to do a book report on the pages you did read to get credit. I would like you to read at least 25-30 pages before you decide that you dislike the book.
 4. A limit of one movie or TV book may be read during the year.
 5. Book reports are done before and after school and during class by appointment only. They will be done orally. Do not wait until the end of the quarter because there is no guarantee that you will get a chance.
 6. You must have the book with you in order to do a book report.
 7. You may only report on one book per day. Plan accordingly.
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Dates to remember:

Last date to report for 1st Quarter:

Last date to report for 2nd Quarter:

Last date to report for 3rd Quarter:

Last date to report for 4th Quarter:

Students: please read the following items and initial that you understand the expectation.

_____ I understand that Mrs. Bohannon will work hard to provide me with all the tools I need to be successful in English but ultimately it is up to me to make good decisions, pay attention, do my work, and seek help when I need it.

_____ I understand that respect is very important to Mrs. Bohannon and I will try my hardest to treat everyone in class with the same respect that I want to receive.

_____ I understand that I am not to be on my phone during class time. I will not text or read text messages during class time. My parents, friends, etc. know that I will respond to their texts during the next passing period. Failure to do so will result in losing my phone for the day.

_____ I understand that when I am assigned work, it is expected to be turned in on time. Failure to do so may result in a negative grade and possibly Saturday School. If I am struggling, I will advocate for myself and talk to Mrs. Bohannon before the deadline to get help.

_____ I understand that I might not always agree with Mrs. Bohannon. Because I am very close to being an adult in the real world, if I have an issue with Mrs. Bohannon, I will visit with her first and try to fix the problem before going to my parents. I understand that Mrs. Bohannon will treat me with the same respect by talking to me first about issues before contacting my parents when at all possible.

I have read the following class procedures and expectations for Mrs. Bohannon's class and understand the importance of them. I will not throw these away but keep them with my English materials to reference as needed.

Student Print: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Parents: Please take a moment to fill out the following information. How would you like me to contact you about your student? Check all that apply. Thank you!

_____ Home (Phone #) _____

_____ Work (Phone #) _____

_____ Cell (Phone #) _____

_____ Email (Address) _____

_____ By mail

_____ Please don't contact me