

Pine Valley Middle School

2009-2010

Course Description 7th Grade Core

Mrs. Rowland

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An integrated approach to language arts and world history is an exciting one! World history is a year- long course giving each student a better knowledge of world cultures and historical events from the fall of Rome to the Age of Exploration as outlined in the California State Standards for history. The elements that contribute to the evolution and development of a culture will be studied with an emphasis on research and technology standards. The English language arts curriculum emphasizes reading, spelling, grammar, and study skills following the State Standards. These skills will also be integrated into the history units. Students will keep a writing notebook and complete activities based on the New York Writing Project. Several compositions and essays will be required each quarter. We will read three or four novels during the year, in addition to reading drama, short stories, and poetry. Also recreational reading is required.

School rules are important. There are no hats, gum, white out or permanent markers, food, electronic devices, or “toys” permitted. Bottled water is fine, but snacks and using the restroom should occur at break only. Read your Parent-Student handbook. Litter pickups will be assigned when rules are not followed.

I believe that no one has the right to infringe on someone else’s right to learn. Students are expected to behave in a way so that all can do their work without interruption. **Consequences for off-task behavior within my classroom will result in parent notification and then a referral to the office.**

An absence does not excuse a student from class work or homework. Students must take responsibility to check with a classmate or the teacher for any missed assignments. All assigned homework will follow the district homework policy. Please see pumapride.org to review the policy.

Turn work in on time. Unavoidably late homework and projects must be accompanied with a “late pass”. There are a variety of ways to earn these admit slips. Taking video notes and participating in class can help fill in for missing homework. A student that is in danger of failing may attend Saturday School once a quarter and makeup a maximum of three missing assignments.

Be on time and in your assigned seat. My tardy policy consists of first a warning to the student; secondly, a litter pickup; thirdly, parent notification. A fourth tardy will result in a referral to an administrator.

Students must be prepared every day with paper, pens, books, and personal supplies: colored pencils, markers, and a glue stick. Handle books carefully. Paperback books and textbooks that are damaged or not returned must be replaced.

The use of a **Pine Valley Binder Reminder is also required.** The Binder Reminder is a place for students to record all assignments in all classes. It provides parents one place to check daily homework. It must be filled in daily, and will be assessed quarterly. For due dates of long- term projects and assignments, check **schoolloop.com**.

Each student is graded on the following: daily participation, class work, homework, projects, quizzes, and tests. One third of the total points will come from tests and quizzes. One third will be assessed from homework and one third will be from projects and class work. All activities will be assigned a point value and then the points are divided by the total possible.

Percentage grades are as follows: 90% and above= A; 80-89%= B; 70-79%= C; 58-69%= D.

Grades are posted on Schoolloop and updated weekly. Please check grades online often for maximum success in Core. Printouts may be requested from the teacher, or printed weekly from schoolloop.

I have read the outline and rules for 7th grade Core.

Student Signature

Parent Signature