

**Communication Arts IVCP
Joplin High School
Syllabus and Expectations.**

Course Description:

Communication Arts IVCP is a college-prep communication arts class designed to help students develop communication skills needed for success in college. The students will encounter read selected classic pieces from both British and World Literature. The students will also do numerous writing activities including: comparison/contrast, persuasion, cause/effect and literary analysis. The students will also complete a major research paper following proper research technique and the MLA stylebook.

Instructional Philosophy:

Since students in this class have indicated they intend to pursue a four or two-year degree this class is advanced, and all students can expect homework in the form of papers, reading assignments, and various other activities. This class is weighted 4.5.

Major Course Goals:

1. Students will speak and write standard English.
2. Students will read and evaluate fiction, poetry, and drama.
3. Students will read and evaluate nonfiction works and materials.
4. Students will write formally and informally.
5. Students will comprehend and evaluate the content and artistic aspects of oral and visual presentations.
6. Students will participate in formal and informal presentations and discussions of ideas and issues.
7. Students will identify and evaluate relationships between language and culture.

Major Course Projects, Instructional Activities, and Course Assessments:

1. Bell work, daily work and silent reading—Each day students will have a variety of these activities which will vary by teacher.
2. Individual and group activities which will vary based on unit of study
3. Formal tests/assessments—Students will take the accompanying test upon the completion of each unit.
4. Formal writing—Students will complete a variety of formal writing assessments which will vary by teacher and unit of study.
5. Projects and presentations—Students will be expected to complete a variety of major projects and presentations throughout the year.
6. Semester finals—All students will take comprehensive semester finals. Those with quality attendance will have the final weighted less on the semester grade.

Participation and attendance:

High school is intended to be a preparatory experience for college and/or the work force. It is important to develop good attendance habits in order to be successful in those arenas. Students are expected to be in the classroom and prepared to work when the tardy bell rings. If tardy, students will surrender their tardy card or expect a referral per the JHS Student Handbook. **All**

policies regarding attendance, make-up work and tardies from the JHS Student Handbook and the Communication Arts Attendance Policy will be followed.

Classroom Expectations:

Rules:

1. Respect yourself.
(In other words...be on time, be prepared, bring needed materials, do your best, dress appropriately, be honest and take responsibility.)
2. Respect others.
(In other words...raise your hand, listen when others are speaking, stay seated during the lessons, keep your hands to yourself and speak respectfully.)
3. Respect property.
(In other words...leave other students' materials alone, respect the room décor and furniture, stay away from my desk and personal possessions.)

Hall Passes:

Students sometimes need to leave the room for various reasons, including using the restroom, getting a drink, or visiting the nurse. Generally, students will be allowed to use the restroom or get a drink at the water fountain **at convenient times**. Students should expect to use **their** hall pass any time they wish to leave the room.

Late work/Make-up work:

When students miss class it is their responsibility to find out what work they missed. Deadlines for make-up work will be at each teacher's discretion. Late work acceptance will be at each teacher's discretion per the **JHS Student Handbook** and the **Communication Arts Policy**. It is the student's responsibility to take care of make-up work by meeting with his/her teacher. Make-up and late work deadlines may vary based on the school calendar and assignment objectives.

Food and Drinks:

Food and drink privileges may vary per teacher, but the JHS Student Handbook allows food and drink only in the cafeteria.

Electronic Devices:

No electronic devices per the JHS Student Handbook.

Grading Scale:

90-100% of points possible	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
59-0%	F

Tutoring/Extra Help:

Teachers will be available as possible for student help, but each student must make arrangements. The JHS Communication Arts Department has a variety of

tutoring sessions available, ask your teacher for times/locations.

Teacher contact:

The most effective way to contact a teacher is via school email or a telephone message at the high school.

This syllabus is subject to change should the nature of the classroom require it.

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