**Ms. Maxwell’s**

**ERWC -12 Class Syllabus**

Welcome to ERWC (**Expository Reading and Writing Course**). This course is a college preparatory, rhetoric-based English Language Arts course for grade 12 designed to develop academic literacy (advanced proficiency in rhetorical and analytical reading, writing, and thinking). Be prepared to learn a creative and professional way of writing.

The goal of ERWC is to prepare college-bound seniors for the literacy demands of higher education. Through a sequence of rigorous instructional modules, students in this year-long, rhetoric-based course develop advanced proficiency in expository, analytical, and argumentative reading and writing. The students focus on reading, comprehending, and responding to nonfiction and literary texts by engaging in active reading and writing processes. The writing modules also provide instruction in the research methods and documentation conventions. Students will gain an awareness of the rhetorical strategies used by authors and apply them in their own writing.

Through the various texts, students will: examine critically the relationship between an author’s argument or theme and his/her audience and purpose; analyze the significance of structural and rhetorical strategies; and examine the social, political, and philosophical assumptions that underlie the text. Students will be expected to use this process independently when reading unfamiliar texts and writing in response to them. Course texts include contemporary essays, newspaper and magazine articles, editorials, reports, biographies, assorted public documents, nonfiction texts, and full-length literary selections.

This Expository Reading and Writing Course is considered by the State University of California (CSU) system as a college ready course. If a student passes this course with a grade of C or better during both semesters, then that student is exempt from taking the English Placement Test for the CSU campuses and is automatically eligible for the first college level English course.

Course Goals and Student Learning Outcomes:

* To enable students to analyze, interpret, and apply the rhetorical strategies of a variety of expository and literary texts.
* To foster students’ ability to create and support written arguments based on readings, research, and personal experience.
* To increase students’ usage of cognitive and metacognitive strategies for approaching various academic reading and writing tasks.
* To promote independent academic literacy practices in college-bound students, including the ability to use reading and writing processes recursively and reflectively.
* To prepare students to meet the standards of the CSU English Placement Test and the California English/Language Arts Common Core Content Standards.

**Classroom Expectations**

* Be punctual
* Be prepared – Have everything you need to be successful during class.
* Enter and exit through the appropriate doors.
* Clean your desk with the supplied sanitizing wipe.
* Respect people’s space and work area keeping a social distance when necessary.
* Be focused – Continue to complete assignments, respecting all due dates.
* Be engaged – Participate in class. Raise your hand and ask questions.
* Be respectful – Respect your peers and teacher. Be kind and patient and speak appropriately. Absolutely no bullying of any kind will be allowed.
* Dress appropriately. Follow the district dress code.
* No food allowed in the class. Water bottles are ok.
* No inappropriate language verbally or written is allowed. Teacher will dismiss student immediately if such act takes place.
* NO cell phones are to be used during class unless approved by the teacher. Please silence your cell phones and place in backpack upon entry into the classroom.

**Attendance**

Attendance is taken at the beginning and end of each class period. If student is late to class, it is his/her responsibility to make the teacher aware of his/her presence.

Leaving class early is not allowed and the student will be marked absent or truant unless previous arrangements have been made.

**Make up work**

Make up work will be allowed for excused absences only. Student will be allowed the total amount of days absent to complete assignment. Example: if absent 2 days, you have 2 days to complete make up work.

There will be NO late assignments accepted for formal essays, major projects or presentations. Absolutely NO EXCEPTIONS unless previously arranged with the teacher.

It is the student’s responsibility to ask about makeup work and check Google Classroom for assignments. It is not the responsibility of the teacher to ensure the student is aware of missing work because of an absence.

**Consequences**

The following consequences will be applied to students not adhering to the rules. A student will be given an initial warning prior to moving into the following levels:

Level 1 – contact parent

Level 2 – contact parent and school counselor

Level 3 – contact parent and assistant principal

**Grades**

Grades represent a student’s degree of mastery of curriculum standards, timely completion of assignments, and effort. Grades will be assigned based on a percentage scale as follows:

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

**Academic Integrity**

**Logins/Passwords/Codes**

Your intellectual property is contained in your Google Classrooms and files. Never share your passwords or login codes with anyone. You are responsible for keeping your accounts private.

**Cheating**

Cheating undermines the academic integrity of the school and will not be tolerated. Students who talk to other students, have cheat sheets, or have handled cell phones during test sessions, (whether or not they cheated) will earn a zero for the test and will not be allowed a make-up. Cheating of any kind will result in a zero for the test and/or assignment.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism consists of using another’s words as one’s own, inadequate paraphrasing, and failing to cite sources. Plagiarism comes in many forms, and the internet is a common source. Students are advised to NEVER copy and paste anything from the internet into their documents and to rigorously paraphrase and credit any source used.

A student caught cheating/plagiarizing will receive a zero for that assignment and may be subject to other disciplinary action.

**Class Assignments and Communication**

**Google Classroom** will be used for ALL class assignments and communication. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure he has joined the correct class and checks his period daily for assignments and communication.

**Contact Information:**

Email – elaine\_maxwell@chino.k12.ca.us

Google classroom allows for private comments and class comments as well.

Please allow 24 school business hours for an email response.