

Springfield Scholars Program

klheugel@spsmail.org

Classroom: 523-9782

Google Voice: 417-597-4992

Humanities/Philosophy

Joint Course Syllabus

Fall 2020 – Spring 2021

Kelly Heugel

I. Methods of Approach

- Lecture based on the texts, other readings, video, and visual arts presentations will establish the chronological evolution of political, philosophical and artistic theory.
- Oral presentations will give students the opportunity to share information as well as develop communication skills (speaking and listening).
- Creative and academic writing assignments will add to the depth of the class discussions and develop writing and research skills.

VII. Parent Involvement

- Stay in contact with Mrs. Heugel. Open lines of communication will keep everyone informed. Email or call before a concern has turned into a major issue. (Mrs. Heugel has found that, for her, emails are easier to respond to during the school day than phone calls.)
- Schedule a parent-teacher conference. Further details will come at a later date.

VIII. Daily Teacher Responsibilities

- Create an environment that will encourage learning and the growth of a productive learning community.
- Model the attributes of a dedicated learner through passion for the content area.
- Provide materials and instruction to equip the student and expand the mind.
- Reciprocate respect and a love of learning.

IX. Workload and Grading

Grades will be based on the following:

- Participation in class discussion
- Note taking
- Assigned reading/listening/watching
- Projects that demonstrate an individualized understanding of the material
- Informal and Formal Oral Presentations
- Quizzes/Tests/Finals
- Teacher Observation

Students will be given work time in class on a daily basis. Together we have written behavioral commitments (see attached). When this work time is used wisely, much of our daily work can be completed during the school day. Major projects may require additional time outside of the school day.

Late work is accepted for full credit for one week. After that timeframe, a 10% deduction may apply. Revisions can be done on work about which the student has developed better understanding. These revision must be completed within the quarter. My revision policy does not cover summative assessments, quizzes, or presentations.

IX. Absences and Alternative Learning Accommodations

When a student misses class, he/she should check the teacher slides/lecture that are accessible on Canvas. Upon returning, a face to face conversation with Mrs. Heugel is needed.

If special accommodations are needed, please contact me.

X. Miscellaneous

- Heating and air conditioning in the building can be temperamental. Layer clothing in all seasons.
- Understand that the failure to submit work on time might make it necessary to spend additional time with Mrs. Heugel before/after school.
- Any book, device, or thing which distracts from learning during class is eligible for confiscation for a time period to be determined by Mrs. Heugel.
- Together we will learn adaptations needed for the Covid-19 virtual and hybrid learning environments. Patience and understanding is greatly appreciated as we develop new procedures and practices.

Philosophy

First Semester

- ***Overall Concept of the Course***

The primary purpose of this course is the exploration of human identity and expression, both individually and collectively.

As a class, we will explore a broad range of philosophy through the following means: poetry analysis, classroom discussions (in person and on zoom), written analysis, oral presentations, individual project, etc.

- ***Course Objective***

- A. Students will form a learning community that accounts for the strengths, needs, and learning styles of each individual in the community. Students will interact with this learning community in-person and virtually.
- B. Students will explore ways of dealing with life's problems and adventures. They will investigate the answers of learned people through time and weigh out the deeper meanings that underlie daily life.
- C. We will address the goals for affective development and thinking skills that have been adopted by the gifted program of Springfield.

- ***Texts and Supplementary Materials***

Sophie's World by Jostein Gaarder

A daily poetry study will pull widely from poets such as Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, Rumi, William Wordsworth, William Stafford, Nikki Giovanni, Mary Oliver, Naomi Shihab Nye, Langston Hughes, Billy Collins, ee cummings, Dunya Mikhail, etc.

Additional novels (varies by year): The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, My Name is Asher Lev by Chaim Potok, The Life of Pi by Yann Martel, Little Brother by Cory Doctorow