

Syllabus

Frank Schneemann, BVHS

Overview

We have a computer-based system of instruction. Except for the final exam, we do not administer tests in my class. Tests are used to measure how much a student knows on a particular day. In my classes, assignments, which may look like tests, are used as a teaching tool. Students may re-do assignments as often as they choose until they get the grade they want. After a student does an assignment it is graded by the computer and immediately shows their score. They can research the correct answers and re-do the assignment to improve their score. ***The students can retake their assignment as many times as they desire until they get the score they want.*** The more often a student elects to re-do assignments, the better we like it. It means that students are interacting with course content more often.

Grades

As you can see, grades in my class are very fluid. We do this because every student does not learn at the same pace or in the same way. Grades in my classes are based on how much a student is willing to work, not on how much a student knows on a particular test day. I can easily examine student assignments and tutor as needed. The computers make this possible because of the way assignments are graded. Parents and students can use Jupiter Grades to view student progress.

Parent Communication

We have developed many ways that parents can monitor student progress. I have a web site, www.edtechnology.com, through which parents can see what we are doing in class. All of our lectures, study guides and tests are open for you to examine.

Parent communication is an important part of education. After all, it is YOUR school, and I am your public servant. Parents, not educators, should have the last word when it comes to the education of their children. With that in mind, parents can request a LIVE meeting with me over the internet to discuss the progress of their son or daughter. I use a program called "Zoom." to communicate directly with parents and students. Zoom allows us to have live meetings. The beauty is that you do not have to come to the school in person. I can share my desktop, show current assignments and grades and discuss any concerns you may have. You can use your personal computer or smart phone to communicate. There is a link on my web page, edtecnology.com, to access Zoom. Please call me (619 252-9522) to set up a conference.

Also, if your son or daughter is sick or absent for an extended period of time I can work with them, through Zoom, so they do not get too far behind.

Web Site

Please visit our web site, at, www.edtechnology.com and click the tab that corresponds to the course your son or daughter is taking. Using this site you will be able to see the assignments that we are working on. We have video's and other resources to help the students succeed in class. Our grades are updated daily.

In my classes, students can retake assignments as many times as they want in order to get better grades. It is hard to fail my classes because students can re-do their assignments as often as they want. Because our class is web based, students who need to be absent for an extended period of time can request to do their work online.

Grading

Students are required to achieve at least a "C" grade to pass the class. A "D" grade is the same as an "F"

Final Grade

- 6 week progress report = 25% of grade
- 12 week progress report = 25% of grade
- 18 week progress report = 25% of grade
- Final Exam = 25% of grade

Homework

I do not assign homework because it is disruptive to family life and family is more important than schoolwork. Homework is unfair to students involved in extracurricular activities or after school jobs. Often these students do not get home until 8 or 9 at night. The health and family life of students is more important than homework.

Students with Special Needs

Students with learning handicaps or limited English skills are welcome in our class and given the attention and support that will enable them to succeed. I am credentialed to teach all of the Social Studies classes as well as, English, Computers, and Special Education classes. I have a Masters degree in Educational Technology and went through the Masters program at San Diego State for teaching emotionally disturbed students. I look forward to teaching students with problems because of the radiant look on their faces when they succeed.

Classroom Behavior:

- Students are expected to behave in a mature, responsible manner
- **Cell phone use is restricted in our class**
- If a student has an emergency call from their parents, they may go outside of the room to communicate.
- If a student needs to study for another class in their schedule, they may ask for permission to study or work on outside assignments and usually I grant permission.
- Students are expected to be in class on time.
- Refer to the student handbook for school/district policies

Political Experience

You can view the course content on our web page; www.edtechnology.com We do not take sides and neither denigrate or promote any of the political parties. In 1940 I campaigned for FDR by canvassing my neighborhood in Philadelphia. I campaigned again for FDR in 1944 and was inspired by his "Fireside Chats." In 1964 I campaigned for Barry Goldwater and in 1966 I was South Bay Chairman for Ronald Regan. I was chairman of the George Murphy for Senate campaign and later for the S.I.Hayakawa for Senate campaign. Later I supported President Johnson and was lucky enough to be invited to the White House. As food and beverage manager at the Carroll Arms hotel in Washington, DC, (directly across the street from the Senate office buildings,) I got to see the workings of government up close. We were a "hang-out" for many Senators and the famous "Quorum Club" was in our hotel. In 1966 I ran for Chula Vista City Council and lost.

Parents First

I try very hard to present both sides of every issue without bias or preference. Teachers who advocate for one side of an issue are not educating your children, they are indoctrinating them. We encourage students to examine both sides of every issue and then discuss the issues with their parents before making up their minds. In this way parents become partners in the political education of their children. Please feel free to call me on my cell phone at any time, 619 252-9522 I Look forward to hearing from you.

Frank Schneemann, MS EdTech

Bonita Vista High School

Southwestern College

National University