

“Contemporary Issues”

2015 – 2016

Purpose:

To introduce the student to -

- *Local, national, and geo-political issues*
- *The art of rhetoric*
- *Research methods*

Objectives:

- *Speak and write knowledgeably on national and international issues.*
- *Stand before his/her peers and give speeches and engage in debate.*
- *Confidently approach research papers.*

I. CLASSROOM RULES

A. BE ON TIME!

B. BE RESPECTFUL!

- *Treat others as you would like to be treated.*
- *Do not talk while the teacher or another student is talking.*
- *No put-downs or profanity will be tolerated.*
- *Remove all hats and hoods while in the classroom.*
- *Do not work on assignments for other classes or write notes to others during my class.*
- *Respect the privacy of the teacher and other students.*

C. FOOD AND DRINKS WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE ROOM SO LONG AS YOU PICKUP AFTER YOURSELFS.

D. PERSONAL HYGEINE IS TO BE TAKEN CARE OF OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM!

- *No brushing your hair, applying make-up, putting on lotion, etc*

E. Cheating will not be tolerated. Cheating is SERIOUS, DISHONEST, UNETHICAL, and a good way to get in trouble and lose the trust of your teachers, parents, and administration. Cheaters will earn zeros; parents and administration will be notified of this most heinous of scholarly infractions.

F. ELECTRONIC DEVICES ALLOWED IN CLASS!

- *Laptops / netbooks / tablets / smartphones can be used to research and fact check.*
- **DO NOT ABUSE THIS PRIVILGE!**

II. GRADES

A. Your grade will be based on a *total point system*. Every assignment will be worth a given point amount which will constitute the total points possible in a given grading period. To figure a grade all that is needed to be done is to divide the total earned points by the total possible points.