

“It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.” Aristotle

“Current Events” 7th

CLASS PROCEDURES: “R – E – S – P – E – C – T!!!”

- RESPECT EVERYONE’S “2 CENTS”
 - “With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility”
 - Listen before you agree/disagree
 - Welcome differences – take disagreement not as a personal attack, but instead consider the person’s viewpoint might arise from **experiences and thoughts you have not had**. Disagreement allows us an opportunity to learn about experiences and thoughts different from your own. Disagreement helps us see an issue/viewpoint in its entirety.
 - Separate the view that is being expressed from the person expressing it. Be clear that your disagreement is with a viewpoint – not with a person.
 - Ask for evidence or arguments for their opinion/reasons.
 - Take seriously that your opinion might be incorrect or less correct than you originally thought possible. Is it possible that in fact there are better arguments and stronger evidence for the views you disagree with?
 - **NO PUT DOWNS WILL BE TOLERATED** – ridiculing a person or the view they have expressed is a common way of seeking psychological satisfaction in the face of the threat they represent to your own viewpoint. To respond to disagreement with put-downs may save you the labor of thinking things through and the pain of having to admit you might be wrong, but it will also guarantee your closed-mindedness and destroy any possibility of having further meaningful discussions. **SILENCE AND CLOSED MINDFULNESS IS NOT THE POINT OF EDUCATION.**

GRADING: TOTAL POINTS

- **CLASS PARTICIPATION** (50% of grade) - “Don’t be a Turtle”
- “CE 360” - Current Event Presentation (1 per quarter)
- “**QUIZ FRIDAY**” (over Current Events)
- **Response Essays**
- **1 Book Report** (25% OFF EACH DAY LATE)
- *Political Cartoon Assignment*
- **Partner “Musical” PowerPoint Presentation**
- **CLASS OUTREACH PROJECT**

GRADING SCALE

A	92
B	83
C	74
D	65
F	64.4

GRADING TIME FRAME: **DO NOT ACCEPT LATE WORK** – “Life has Deadlines”

ABSENCES: YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR GETTING ONLINE AND PRINTING OFF MISSED WORK

MY WEBSITE <http://rmeier.weebly.com/> (follow directions below to get to website)

1) www.castlehs.com 2) “Academics” on yellow row 3) “Social Studies” 4) “Mr. Meier” website 5) “Topics”

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