**Disclosure Document**

**Mrs. Cox's Creative Writing 1 ~ Spring 2017**

**Room # 307 ~ (801)768-7010 ext. 307 ~ email:** [**lcox@alpinedistrict.org**](mailto:lcox@alpine.k12.ut.us)

**Class website: mrscoxenglishcorner.weebly.com**

*“The difficulty of literature is not to write, but to write what you mean”*

*Robert Louis Stevenson*

C:\Users\lcox\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\334B9RI2\MC900413460[1].wmfWelcome to a new semester! I am very excited to teach this class. I love writing and want to share that love with you! The purpose of Creative Writing 1 is to help growing writers develop in the different areas of writing creatively. We will experiment with different genres and then dive into choice genres for a longer story. If you enjoy writing, you are in the right class. I look forward to a great year and seeing what each student has to offer!   
  
Please read the following policies that are expected of students in my classroom.   
  
**MATERIALS:**

* Paper, Pen (only black or blue) and/or Pencil
* Writer’s Journal

**ABSENCES & TARDIES:**

Every student is responsible for coming to class. In-class experiences cannot be recreated when a student has missed and so he/she will miss important aspects of the class. It is also important for students to come on time. Students must be in his/her seat with all the necessary materials when the bell rings each day. Unexcused absences and tardies will affect a student’s participation grade.

**HOMEWORK:**

The amount of homework a student has will depend on your use of class time. If you are effective and work hard, you will have very little homework.

**READING:** True writers read! You talk to any author and they will tell you that they also read. Students should already be reading 5 to 8 books in their English class based on what grade they are in. Ray Bradbury once said of being a writer, “Just write every day of your life. Read intensely. Then see what happens. Most of my friends who are put on that diet have very pleasant careers.” **Students do not need to read additionally to what they are already reading in English.**

**WRITING:** We will be doing a lot of writing in this class. Each class will begin with a 15 minute free write period. We will also write smaller projects and one longer story or beginning of a novel. We will look at elements that make up good stories and then implement them in our own writing.

**LATE WORK & MAKE-UP WORK:**

Students will have one week from his/her absence to hand in missing work. **For extenuating circumstances, please contact me.**

**CITIZENSHIP:**

Citizenship grades will be given based on attendance, participation, and class behavior. Office referrals will result in a full grade drop in citizenship.

Any inappropriate behavior will be addressed in following ways:

1. Warning: After the first warning, each additional warning will result in a loss of 5 participation points.
2. Student/Teacher Conference
3. Parent Conference with a behavior contract
4. Detention or removal from class

*“But words are things, and a small drop of ink,*

*Falling, like dew, upon thought, produces*

*That which makes thousands, perhaps millions, think.”*

*-Lord Byron*

**PARTICIPATION:**

Students are expected to participate in class and will receive points based on their participation. Failure to come to class, being prepared, tardies, truancies, and failure to follow class rules will result in a loss of participation points. Parents, please be aware that I do take ALL points away from students when they are absent, however, if the absence is excused, those points will be returned. Please give me 5 school days to change those.

Students will also be expected to share their journal writing with the class at least once per term.

**EXTRA CREDIT:**

\***There is no extra credit for this class.**

**GRADING POLICY:**

Grading will be based on a weighted scale as follows:

I will be using the following grading scale.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Participation | 20% |
| Assignments | 40% |
| Writing | 40% |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | B+ = 87-89% | C+ = 77-79% | D+ = 67-69% | F = 0-59% |
| A = 94-100% | B = 83-86% | C = 73-76% | D = 63-66% |  |
| A- = 90-93% | B- = 80-82% | C- = 70-72 % | D- = 60-62% |  |

  
**PLAIGARISM:** Students know that they need to give proper credit when citing sources. If students are found to be plagiarizing, they will receive a “0” for that assignment.

**PEER EDITING:** Peer editing will often be done in class. Reading and responding to the written work of other students is an important part of the writing process. **By signing this disclosure document, you, as parent or legal guardian, give your student permission to participate in peer-editing activities and understand class objectives. Please contact me at the school with any concerns.**

**VIDEO CLIPS:** We will view movie and TV clips to help students learn literary elements. We will not be watching any movie or show in its entirety, but short clips that assist the student's ability to visualize how literary elements work. The clips will be for general audiences and will follow district guidelines.

**Classroom Rules:**

* The classroom is a NO WHINING ZONE.
* Have Respect: This means respect for yourselves (by accepting responsibility for your actions), for your classmates, for the school, supplies, and for me as the teacher. We want this to be a safe zone classroom.
* NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE PERMITTED IN THE CLASSROOM at any time. These items will be confiscated if seen and turned in to the front office.

(Please detach this sheet and turn in to Mrs. Cox. Have your student keep this copy of the disclosure document.)

*“If you can not write well, you can not think well, and if you can not think well, others will do your thinking for you”*

*George Orwell*

## Parents & Students: When you sign on the following lines, you are stating that you have read, understand, and agree to Mrs. Cox's Creative Writing 2 Policies and Procedures.

Student Name (Printed):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class Period:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
  
Parent Name (Printed):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (I email home weekly with updated progress reports and information on upcoming assignment due dates. Please make sure this email is current in Skyward so that you receive those emails)

Parent Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Work Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

When is the best time to call? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please use the space below to indicate any special circumstances, seating preferences, or areas of focus for learning regarding your student that I need to be aware of.