

Ruiz-Houston's RESEARCH Course Guide

Class Philosophy & Rules

Your goal may be related to grades or maybe to college or career. Regardless, your goals are important to me and I want to see you attain them. My goals for this year are to strengthen your technical/science skills. I want you to be able to take on the challenge of the very technical world that you are going to inherit with a focus on STEM. STEM is an acronym that stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. I also want you to become very strong thinkers and problem solvers. Hence, I only have three fundamental rules for my classroom:

RESPECT ~ for yourself, others, and the materials that have been provided for us.

RESPONSIBILITY ~ for you own actions and lack of actions.

HONOR ~ Honesty about what effort you have put forth and in dealing with others.

Class Responsibilities & Procedures

OK...Now some housekeeping issues.....

- **Classroom environment** ~ the classroom rules are on the front wall. They are simple and are good rules of citizenship. We will observe all of the school "Disciplinary Policies and Procedures". I am expecting mature behavior from everyone in the classroom. Boys should be gentlemen and girls should be ladies, each showing respect toward the other. Bad or inappropriate language is not going to be accepted at any time from anyone.
- **Daily Procedure** ~
 - Follow all county/school rules – as per Student Code of Conduct.
 - When you enter the classroom:
 - Be in your seat at the bell
 - Put away your backpacks (either under your desk on the floor or on the side of the room)
 - Be prepared to work:
 - Each day, please take out the homework, college applications, etc. that you will be working on.
 - Please use your class time to complete this work.
 - Be respectful of teacher and other students. This is NOT a social period. Your grade will be based on whether or not you are working on your coursework.
 - No talking while others are talking.
 - No sleeping and no passing notes.
 - Cell phones, iPods, and all other electronic devices should be "on vacation" and in backpacks at all times unless I've given express permission to use them.
- **PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES:** Pagers and cellular phones are NOT conducive to the educational process in this class. I will assume that any interruption due to a personal communication device will be justifiable based on a real emergency and that the student being summoned will need to leave immediately to deliver a baby, attend to the dying, retrieve an injured child from daycare, or otherwise take immediate action which necessitates leaving. Such devices used during any graded assignment will result in an automatic zero.
- **Attendance** ~ please be here in class every day or you will fall behind from the first day. Attendance is the first rule of success in most things in life. Please be in your assigned seat when the bell rings.

It is your responsibility to find out what assignments you have missed and makeup the work if you are absent for any reason, INCLUDING field trips and sporting events. Do NOT delay! You can find a pacing guide for the entire quarter and a syllabus for each chapter on my website (<https://educatorpages.com/site/MrsRuizHouston>). Extra photocopies are kept in the bin on top of the bookshelf. Please get notes from a fellow classmate or use the notes that I have also place on my website.

• **Absences** ~

- If a student has an EXCUSED absence, he/she is responsible for any work missed. The student will be given 2 days to complete make-up assignments. It is the student's responsibility to pick up his/her make-up work and turn it in within the 2 days. (Per the Code of Conduct).

- **Passes** ~ Students are expected to use the restroom between classes & lunches. Passes will be issued ONLY during the first &/or last 5 minutes of class. During class, only emergency passes will be issued.

- **Dismissal** ~ Students are dismissed by the teacher, not by the bell. If you are working diligently you will find that you can begin your homework in class.
- **Supplies** ~ you will need to bring your supplies to class every day. Failure to bring your supplies will make it particularly difficult to complete your work for the day. You have been given a paper copy of the supplies needed for this class; an additional copy of the list is located on my website.
- **No food in the classroom.**
- **Backpacks** ~ Backpacks need to be under your desk during class. Please don't try to hide your cell phones in your lap or behind your backpack.
- **Assignments** ~ Assignments that are not turned in will receive a zero.
- **Classroom cleanup** ~ you will need to leave the area around your desk or lab table clean, picked up, and ready for the next class.
- **Cheating** ~ cheating does no good for anyone involved & will receive a zero. Do not jeopardize your reputation by cheating. Cheating certainly does not prepare you for a productive professional or personal life. Do your own work. If you got help on homework, say so. Someday you may want or need a letter of recommendation. I will not write a letter of recommendation for anyone who has cheated.
- **Fire and Emergency Drills** ~ strict attention to the teacher's instructions is required during all drills. Every drill will be treated as if it were for real.
- **Grading** ~ Use Pinnacle at home to view grade. Each week you will receive a minimum of 1 grade for your participation in the course. This course is designed to give you an opportunity and extra time to work on your AP, Dual Enrollment, and Advanced courses. This is NOT a social period. Your grade will be based on whether or not you are working on your coursework.

Emergency Contact Information

Student Name _____

Mother's/Guardian's Name _____

Home Number _____ Work Number _____

Email _____

Father's/Guardian's Name _____

Home Number _____ Work Number _____

Email _____

Signatures

I have read and will abide by these rules and guidelines while in Research class.

(Student Signature)

(Date)

I have read and understand what is expected of my child in Research class. The contact information above is accurate.

(Parent Signature)

(Date)