

Peter Jana Syllabus - Fall 2017 - Health n' Justice
11th Grade Humanities
High Tech High
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Course Vision:

We will strive to create a discussion based class where diverse ideas and perspectives are welcomed and explored. We will strive to emphasize depth over breadth and understand that significant questions are more important than facile answers. Along the way, we will study the philosophy of ethics and U.S. history.

Project: Health n' Justice

Health is the ability of an individual and community to adapt to physical, environmental, and social changes. Conflicts around health equity stem from differences in beliefs and values about what rights humans are entitled to. The financial, physical, and emotional costs of supporting quality individual and community health can be extensive. The Health 'n Justice project will explore the biological and philosophical elements of health equity culminating in a community panel run by students. Research conducted during the semester will also be published in a book including individual, community and international health issues.

Habits of Mind: Through reading, writing, discussion, and research, students will develop the following habits of mind: 1) developing a claim; 2) using evidence; 3) using reason; 3) drawing connections between different events or topics; and 4) developing questions for further study, reflection, and research.

Student Expectations: Be respectful. Work hard. No whining.

Honors Component: Honors students should expect work that goes above and beyond the non-honors curriculum. It is important to realize that students cannot drop out of honors once they have enrolled in honors. Although a student's GPA will increase with an honor's class, the letter grade you earn in honors will remain on the official transcript. Honors can be a rich and rewarding experience but it should not be taken lightly. It should be balanced with other commitments, whether they are extracurricular (like sports) or curricular (like other honors classes and/or college classes). Talk to me and read the honor's contract for more details.

Academic Integrity / Plagiarism: Any suspicion of cheating and/or plagiarism must be addressed by all parties concerned – including anyone suspected of helping someone else cheat/plagiarize. *Plagiarism is attempting to use the words or ideas of another person without acknowledging the source.* Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and may result in expulsion or academic probation. Be respectful. Work hard.

Attendance: Be on time. Every day. Every break. Bring your stuff. Excessive tardiness will result in a reduction of grade. Be respectful of my time and that of your classmates.

Class Blog and Class Docs: All homework and important dates will be on the class blog and most of the readings / handouts will be on the class docs. There is never any excuse not to know what the assignment is. You can follow the blog and do work from home if you have to miss a day. It is your responsibility to check the blog for homework and announcements. Do it daily.

Computers: You will be assigned computers and you will be required to keep them in first class condition. This includes reporting any problems as soon as they arise. Any indication of damage due to neglect or malicious intent will lead to the student/family paying for reimbursement costs and possible expulsion from school. Be respectful of school property.

Late Work: Homework that is late will not be accepted unless there are extenuating circumstances such as an excused absence. Students who turn in larger assignments late, such as important project benchmarks or essays, should expect a reduction of points that may significantly impact their grade. Work hard.

Printing Homework: Some assignments will require you to have hard copies ready at the beginning of class. Since printing work during class is a distraction that takes away from class time, you should do this at home or at school before class.

Communication: It is incredibly important for you to be open with teachers about your daily experience and anything that is preventing you from performing at your optimum. Be proactive come see your teachers before what is happening inside or outside the classroom begins to affect your success. Tell me if things are going too slow or too fast. Help me help you succeed

See other handout for the course calendar. Note that all dates and assignments are subject to change. Read the blog, pay attention in class, and ask questions as they arise.