

Utah Studies

MELP

2016-2017

Ms. Hunt

Teacher Contact Information

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801-4810 ext.2018

Course Description

The MELP consists of Utah Studies and nonfiction reading curriculum program designed for students chosen for their high academic ability. This course is intended to teach students how and why we learn and become critical thinkers through written and visual text using skills, strategies, and history. The history curriculum is intended to assist students to develop personal inquiry traits and expand their critical and creative thinking. Using reading, writing, historical events, problem solving, and inquiry students work to interpret, respond and connect with the world and extend their developing civic responsibility.

Course Goals and Objectives

- Our students will improve their practice of communications which includes critical reading skills, the writing process, listening, speaking, and presentation skills.
- Our students will learn and practice reading and writing strategies, particularly as they apply to content areas.
- Our students will study the history of Utah and through historical perspective understand how our past events influence today and our future.
- Utah State Office of Education has developed a Core Curriculum which outlines specific standards for student learning. The Core curriculum includes ideas, concepts, and skills which provide a foundation on which subsequent learning may be built. For additional information in content areas see: State Core Links for Language Arts and Utah History at <http://www.uen.org/core/>

Course Materials

- *Utah: A Journey of Discovery*, by Richard Neitzel Holzapfel, ISBN: 0879057122 school set
- *Literature, Bronze 2nd Ed.*, Prentice Hall, ISBN: 0136917348 school set
- *Writers Choice: Grammar & Composition*, Glencoe McGraw-Hill. ISBN: 0028181484
- These sites provide good information for Utah history: history.utah.gov State History's services & online resources; historytogo.utah.gov People, places & events in Utah history; historyforkids.utah.gov resources for students & parents.
- Additional novels, teacher and student selected, will be read. Internet, news media and pod cast use will also be important components of our study.
- Students are responsible for returning novels and textbooks with the numbers assigned to them. Returning a book of a different number will not be accepted. All lost books will be paid for in the office before a student can be assigned the next novel. Special arrangements can be made through communicating with the teacher.

Format and Procedures

- Our class work will regularly use small and large group discussions, questioning methods, inquiry, presentations and the like.
- It is our expectation that students will keep up with assignments and homework. It is the student's responsibility to record assignments and homework in their planner each day. There will be some homework each day. It is the student's responsibility to finish class work at home when necessary. Completing class work and homework will help the students to improve their readiness for subsequent learning. This is integral for building student success.
- We expect your student will read at least twenty minutes each day. We understand that the amount of time per day may vary as the schedules of the days vary but reading is as essential as breathing for increasing learning.
- Current events assignments will be due every _____.
- Writing notebook will be collected every other _____.
- Students are required to have the following supplies in class everyday:
 - One subject notebook *AND* one subject composition book
 - Student planner
 - Pencils, pens, highlighters

- Student selected novel (independent reading book) and/or class novel assigned by teacher
- Atlas- 7th grade students will receive one from their teacher
- Flash drive or e-mail account access

Course Requirements

- Daily attendance is most helpful to successful learning. Due to the interactive nature of the class, there are some tasks that cannot be made up. Regular attendance, therefore, is strongly encouraged. When that is not possible each student should have a student from their class they can confer with to keep up with the lessons from the period of their absence. For long absences please contact the counselors to have assignment make-up and late testing arranged.
- Work submitted by each student should reflect their best individual work efforts. While parental guidance is appreciated, the best assessment of growth in content, processes, and skills can be seen in the student’s own efforts.
- All final assignments, where appropriate, must be in ink or typed. Our students will have homework each night.
- Plagiarism is not allowed. Those who plagiarize will receive a zero and an opportunity to resubmit another edit, receiving late credit. Second offenders of plagiarism will not be allowed resubmission, the assignment will have a final score of zero, and a meeting with parents and administration will be scheduled.
- Students who cheat will receive a zero on the assignment. If a student is caught cheating a second time, a meeting with parents will be scheduled. Any subsequent cheating will include student, parent, teacher, and school administration.

Grading

- Assignments past their due date will be marked ‘missing’ and scored with a zero in the computer grading program. Assignments with ‘missing’ and zero may be made up for 80% credit. Assignments past the due date with a zero and no ‘missing’ notation in the grading program *cannot* be made-up.
- Late work will be due every midterm and end-of-term.
- Some assignments will not be accepted late. Such assignments will be written in ALL CAPITALS in Power School, clearly stated to the students, and written in the student planner.
- Citizenship is evaluated against the expectations stated in class, the student planner and school policies.
- Power School is the district grade access system. Please use your pin number, when it becomes available, to frequently monitor the progress of your student.

Disclosure Signatures

- Please sign the last page. Keep this document for home and only return the signature page to your MELP teacher.

Notes

Ms. Hunt – MELP disclosure document

Printed Name of Parent

Email address of Parent

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Printed Name of Student

Student Signature

Date

Student Email Address (needed for cmsmelp.wikispaces.com)

Questions

Tell me something about your student that I don't yet know and would be helpful to both of us.