

# Freshmen Technology / "Erosh Tech"

Instructor: Mr. Kerr

Location: C201

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## Course Objectives

Based on the International Society for Technology in Education standards for learning in the digital age and the Common Sense Media curriculum for digital literacy and citizenship skills, this course will focus on three objectives:

1. **Basic Technology Skills**, using technology tools to enhance creativity and collaboration in the learning process.
2. **Research and Information Fluency**, including strategies for locating, organizing, analyzing, synthesizing information from a variety of sources and media.
3. **Digital Citizenship**, understanding human, cultural and societal issues related to technology and practicing safe and ethical behavior in the online environment.

## Grading

Grades are based on the following categories:

- **Daily Assignments 60%**  
This includes classwork, homework, exit tickets, etc.
- **Major (Benchmark) Assignments 30%**  
Required assessments for passing this course include digital media papers, a presentation, a reflective essay on digital citizenship and culminating ePortfolio.
- **Effort and Growth (Citizenship) 10%**  
Students will earn credit for meeting (or exceeding) the following expectations:
  - ✓ Coming to class on time with an appropriate academic focus and materials
  - ✓ Knowing and following all school and class policies and procedures
  - ✓ Showing effort and a positive attitude toward learning and making progress

## **Absences, Late Work and Academic Honesty**

I accept late work for up to one week for half-credit. Students returning from excused absences have the exact length of their absence to make up missing work with no penalty. Unexcused absences will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Please know that frequent absences, excused or not, usually result in poor grades.

Plagiarism, copying, allowing one's work to be copied, and other forms of academic dishonesty will result in at minimum a zero on the assignment and a conference with the instructor and/or administration. There will be no warnings. I will inform you when collaboration is allowed or expected.

Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com site

## **Behavior Expectations and Electronics Policy**

The rules in our classroom are simple: be prepared, be responsible, be cool. Show up with your materials every day, treat each other respectfully, and communicate with me if you have a concern. Students may have up to two bathroom passes per quarter, but other out-of-class privileges are rare. I encourage students to bring water bottles to stay hydrated.

The use of electronic devices will be limited to academic purposes only. Devices should be in silent (not vibrate) mode and placed face down on the desk, unless the instructor explicitly gives permission to use them. Failure to follow this may result in confiscation as per the school policy.

Because we will be frequently in the computer lab, no food or drink (except water) is allowed.

## **Contacting me**

I'm really excited about exploring this course with you, where I expect to learn just as much as students! Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns. My contact information is listed on the front of this document.

Sincerely,

Mr. Kerr