

## Taylor's Policies

- **Aaaagghh! I had a poor quiz/test score:** We all have bad days. There will be NO rewrites but you can earn a better mark by demonstrating a better understanding to me with your corrections.
- **Sick? Missed a class?** You must speak with me as soon as you return to school (NOT THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS) to make up what you've missed. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE for finding out what you missed and completing the assignment. You are expected to get caught up right away and may have to attend lunch appointments to make it up. It is to everyone's benefit, especially yours that you return to class to catch up.
- **Disruptive behaviour:** You will be given one warning and may be moved to another area of the room so that everyone, you included, can focus on doing their best. If I must speak to you another time, either a detention will be served at my convenience, further escalation will result in being sent to Room 31.
- **Taking a quiz or test?** You are expected to be SILENT. Failure to do so will earn you a zero.
- **I don't get it?!?!?!??** If you are stuck or having a brain freeze on a concept or problem:
  - look at the examples in your notes or textbook. Often you can figure out the theory in order to complete the problem. PERSEVERANCE is the first step to success.
  - Call a friend. Remember knowing the answer is not as important as how you got it.
  - Ask me, please. I AM HERE TO HELP YOU, WITH ANYTHING. If you don't 'get it,' please see me ASAP. Even the smartest of the smart need a hand. Asking for help is a sign of strength and it is when we ask, that we learn.
- **Need to talk? Got a problem?** Come and see me! I am here to talk with students; about school, life....whatever. Let me know what is going on with you!

## **Success begins with you!**

Nobody is born knowing it; you must practice, review, practice, study, practice, seek help and practice some more. Studying for tests is a must.

### **1. "Succeeding tomorrow means doing your best today."**

- Keep good, organized notes that are easy to review.
- Understand theory (the why and how) before attempting the exercises. Process and understanding are more important than answers and memorizing.
- Always do your homework and correct any mistakes. Make sure that you know what you did wrong and why. Learn how to do it correctly. This includes any quizzes.
- Ask for help as soon as you realize that you are having difficulty with a concept.
- Don't fall behind. It's so much harder to get caught up.
- Review your notes periodically.

### **2. Start studying the day you are notified:**

- Be thorough. Review everything taught and each section or unit carefully.
- Reading is not studying! When you read, stop every paragraph and summarize what was written, quiz yourself for details and add to your notes. As you review concepts quiz yourself for understanding. Re-do questions, especially the ones that you got wrong.
- Make study notes: include key concepts, theories, vocabulary & examples.
- Use everything: chapter summaries, review questions, notes, textbooks, & quizzes.
- Quiz yourself. A study showed that students were able to predict most of the questions on a test. Write questions you think may be asked on one side and the answer on the other. Test yourself and get friends and family to quiz you too.
- Know all vocabulary words.
- Find a quiet place to study (not your bed, you will be napping before you know it). Take short breaks every 20 minutes or so to stay focused and fresh.

### **3. Find out what will be tested:** Use outlines and hints given by me, as I am the one making the test! Don't study the Earth's crust when the test is on the eye.

### **4. During a test:**

- Stay calm. Take a few deep breaths.
- Listen to any instructions or hints.
- Read the instructions very carefully and check to make sure that your answer actually answers the question.
- Skim the test or quiz. Often there are hints or answers hidden in other questions.
- Do easy questions first to get your confidence up. Skip the questions that you don't know right away, mark them and go back to them. For tough questions, reword them, and think of everything that you know about the concept asked.
- Pace yourself. Don't spend 10 minutes on a question worth 1 mark and only 2 minutes on a question worth 10 marks.
- If you have time, check over your test. You may be able to catch a few marks in silly mistakes or remember extra information.