## pirate.bmp

## Creative English

# Course Syllabus

## Fall/Spring Semester

**Mrs. Kokes**

### Mission

The mission of Avon School District is to ensure that all students successfully reach their potential (1[[1]](#endnote-1)).

### Vision

The Avon School District will provide a clean, well-kept and functional facility that supports the needs of the curriculum and is available for appropriate community use. The Avon School District will encourage and foster a safe, caring atmosphere which values mutual respect between students and staff (1).

### Course Description/Overview

Students will design the yearbook (*Pirate’s Log*) and write articles to print in the *Avon Clarion* (*Jolly* *Roger*).

### Course Learning Objectives (Essential Questions)

1. How are news articles different from short stories or research papers?
2. What information is important in a news article?
3. How do I design a page to capture the audience’s attention?

### All English/Language Arts Common Core Standards for Writing Grades 9-12 will be utilized

### Course Resources

**Course Website(s)**

* Mrs. Kokes Website <http://lk115.k12.sd.us/> (Also accessible through Avon School site)
* Yearbook Avenue Website (through Jostens) <http://yearbookavenue.jostens.com/>

**Course Supplies**

* Internet access (yearbook)
* Computer access (write articles)

### Grading

**Criteria**

Assignments- At least once a week, students will complete notes/assignments relating to journalism and photography. These assignment skills can be applied to tasks in the *Pirate Log* and the *Jolly Roger*. Each assignment will be given a separate point value.

Participation- Students are also given participation grades for the course. On certain days each week, you will be given “Work Time” to produce *Pirate Log* pages, *Jolly Roger* articles, or if those items are complete you can use the class as study hall/free time. You may also use this time to set up tutoring time/makeup time with teachers as needed and/or requested. Each week you will receive 10 points according to the rubric below:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Points Possible** | **Writing** | **Time on Task** | **Attitude** | **Time Management** |
| 10 | Student writes their own articles and ask teacher for editing  (You will NOT miss points for grammar errors) | Student completes the task immediately (writes and delivers questions, takes pictures, types/designs) | Student is friendly and respectful during class and completes work to the best of their ability | Student finds quiet activities after completing work (homework, studying, reading) |
| 5 | Students asks another student to “help” them write the article | Student completes task after being reminded two or more times | Student needs constant prompting to complete work | Student needs reminding to find activities |
| 0 | Student does not write the article and the article is reassigned | Student does not complete task after being reminded for three or more days | Student does not complete work because they are “busy” working on other items not school related | Student does not use time wisely to complete course work or homework from other classes |

Semester grade will be 50% of each quarter. No semester test is given. However, you may be asked to complete yearbook pages during the semester test time period if you are behind in submission.

**Grading Scale**Percentage GPA Points

A+ . . . 100 Superior 4.00   
A . . . 95 - 99 Superior 4.00   
A- . . . 93 - 94 Superior 3.67   
B+ . . . 91 - 92 Above Average 3.33   
B . . . 88 - 90 Above Average 3.00   
B- . . . 86 - 87 Above Average 2.67   
C+ . . . 83 - 85 Average 2.33   
C . . . 78 - 82 Average 2.00   
C- . . . 75 - 77 Average 1.67   
D+ . . . 72 - 74 Passing, Below Average 1.33   
D . . . 63 - 71 Passing, Below Average 1.00   
D- . . . 60 - 62 Passing, Below Average 0.67   
F . . . 59 & Below Failing 0.00

### Course/District Policies

* Cheating – **AVON SCHOOL DISTRICT 4-1 CHEATING POLICY** (19)
  + Definition of cheating: Soliciting, acquiring, supplying or use of answers on

tests, quizzes, study guides or other assignments. Any type of plagiarism and/or copyright infringement on work turned-in is in violation of the cheating policy.

* + Punishment:
    - 1st Offense: Inform Parents; 1 day in-school suspension; Mandatory Semester

tests, 1 hour Saturday detention, "0" credit for the assignment.

* + - 2nd Offense: Inform Parents; 2 day in-school suspension; mandatory semester tests throughout high school; 3 hour Saturday detention;

"0" credit for assignment; Not eligible for the honor roll for the remainder of the year.

* + - 3rd Offense: Meeting with parents; 3 day out-of-school suspension; loss of credit for the class.
  + The classroom teacher will bear the responsibility to verify any and all cheating.
  + Only the classroom teacher and/or the secondary principal may impose the punishment.
* Cell Phones- See revised Avon School Policy 2012-13
* Food- Candy and gum chewing is allowed if it is done in a proper manner. HOWEVER, individual teachers may ask students not to eat candy or chew gum in their classrooms or study hall. There will be NO POP OR FOOD allowed in classrooms without prior approval from the administration (6). ABSOLUTELY NO FOOD OR POP IN THE COMPUTER LAB- ONLY WATER!
* Classroom Disruptions/Behaviors- refer to the Disciple Grid on pages 6-7 in handbook.

### Course Schedule

* *Jolly Roger* articles will be submitted every two weeks according to the assigned list. (See calendar in computer lab for *Jolly Roger* deadlines and article submission list)
* *Pirate Log* pages will be assigned during the first week of class. You are responsible for collecting pictures/information for your pages, and completing those pages in a timely fashion. See the website for deadlines for each page.
* There is not a semester test. However, if yearbook pages need to be completed, you may be asked to come in during the testing time period to finish your work.

1. *Cited handbook pages can be accessed through the “Handbook” link on the Avon School Website or through the Avon School Main Office* [**www.avon.k12.sd.us**](http://www.avon.k12.sd.us) [↑](#endnote-ref-1)